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Time for a major peace offensive in Biafra



Death is harvesting a bumper crop in Biafra. Hopes that the loss of Umuahia, the administrative capital, would persuade Lt-Col Ojukwu, ex-governor of Nigeria's Eastern region and leader of independent Biafra since the 30 May 1967 breakway from the central government in Lagos, to climb down a peg or two have proved mistaken. The fighting goes on.

Heroism or irresponsibility? It looks to observers in far-of Europe very much as though the recovery of Owerri and other minor successes notched up by Lt-Col Ojukwu are being much over-rated in Biafra.

Basically the position of the Ibos and other minorities that either support them or are forced to do so is desperate. After fighting in which for the most part a good deal of blood was shed most of Biafra was occupied by Federal troops months ago. Even so, hopes of a dramatic turn in the tide, a miracle, still linger on among the Ibos.

Last autumn, when the defeat of their inadequately-equipped troops seemed only a matter of days, arms supplies from an unknown quarter (probably France) together with declarations of sympathy for the Biafran cause emanating from Paris brought the Nigerian final offensive to a standstill. That success put fresh wind into Biafra's sails and the recovery of Owerri seems to have had the same effect. Yet is this not self-deception? The military consequences of the Nigerian advance into Umuahia may be slight but the battle for the town, the name of which became world-famous during the few months in which it housed Biafra's administrative machinery, has once again made the hopelessness of Biafra's position unmistakably clear.

Looking facts in the face is made even harder for the Biafrans by the fact that there can be no expectations of a swift outcome. The war can drag on for months. In recent weeks the Federal troops have suffered reverses at other points on the front besides Owerri. The Ibos have considerable talent in improvisation.

After swift advances the Federal troops have time and time again allowed themselves long intervals of rest in order to bring up supplies and reinforcements. Fresh supplies of arms and equipment from friends of Biafra may bring Federal offensives to a standstill yet again. Advancing along the roads, the Federal government has still not gained control of the countryside either.

Preparations for guerilla warfare have made considerable progress in Biafra and for the time being a link with the outside world still remains in the shape of emergency airstrip Annabelle. The final phase of fighting will not commence until this final link has been severed.

Matters should not, however, be allowed to come to this pass. Enough blood has been shed and far too many people have died of hunger. It is high time a really major peace offensive was launched. The two sides must make the effort themselves.

At Monrovia the first signs of readiness to compromise could be read between the lines of what the Biafran delegate had to say but no further efforts were undertaken because the duration of talks was too short - certainly too short for an African palaver, which as a rule does not end until agreement has been reached.

No attempt was made to offer the Biafrans anything either. A compromise consists of concessions by both sides. In Monrovia pressure was brought to bear on Biafra alone.

Yet how is Nigeria to be reunited without the aid of third parties? It will be hard work as long as Lagos insists on revocation of secession prior to a ceasefire and talks on a political solution. This is a demand that amounts to unconditional submission.

Reconciliation must begin with a grand gesture. The Federal position is now so strong that Lagos can afford to make a generous peace offer. Biafra's desire for an outline of the central government's peace conditions seems reasonable enough, no matter who is held responsible for the outbreak of hostilities.

The fear of Federal troops felt by Biafrans and their followers is genuine, whether it is justified or not. So is their mistrust of a central government. They must first be given confidence.

General Gowon, head of the military government in Lagos, appears to have realised as much. He recently gave an assurance that all Biafrans would be forgiven, even Lt-Col Ojukwu's closest associates. At the same time he appealed to Nigerians everywhere to help in reincorporating the Ibos in the Nigerian state.

In the areas occupied by Federal troops anyone can see for himself that this promise is seriously meant, but this is evidently not enough. Maybe it would be possible to provide written guarantees for the personal security and property of the people of Biafra.

The more generous the Federal government is, the sooner it will succeed in gaining more support than in the past for its efforts to convince Lt-Col Ojukwu and his remaining supporters of the pointlessness of further resistance. *Klaus Natorp*

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 5 May 1969)

Visitors at Hanover Fair (Photo: dpa)

The Soviet Russian Minister of Foreign Trade, Nikolai S. Patolichev (centre), visited this year's Hanover Fair, accompanied by Karl Schiller (right), Minister of Economic Affairs and the Russian ambassador in Bonn, Semyon Tsarapkin. First estimates indicate that over 600,000 people visited this year's Fair.



IN THIS ISSUE

Fresh hope at Vietnam talks

Is a fresh round of Vietnam talks in the offing in Paris? After months of deadlock a new phase of unofficial negotiations seems to be in the pipeline, if the latest declarations by both sides and the brisk behind-the-scenes diplomatic consultations are anything to go by.

The opponents are like duellers, yielding inch by inch from positions once stoutly maintained but determined at all costs to avoid exposing a weak spot in the process.

M. Kiem, NFL delegate, gave rise to the first hopes when he declared himself ready to negotiate not only with Washington but also with the other parties, that is, Saigon. Thereupon General Thieu, the South Vietnamese head of state, renewed his offer to enter into confidential negotiations with the NLF.

This offer gains in significance from what is, admittedly, a disputed comment that the withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam can be expected as of August. At the same time there are reports from Washington that Republican Congressmen are calling for an immediate reduction in troop strength. President Nixon too is expected shortly to announce moves along the same lines.

South Vietnam has certainly lowered the ante in its game of poker, going back on what were once held to be absolute essentials. It has recognised the NLF, hitherto regarded as non-existent, as a partner for negotiation and is including in its calculations the American desire gradually to pull out of Vietnam.

Although Saigon wants to commence negotiations only on condition that the other side makes no prior demands, it is meeting the NLF half-way. The NLF, admittedly, still insists on prior withdrawal of US troops even though it claims to be well disposed towards talks. The Americans, for their part, could reduce their own troop strength by way of testing the Viet Cong's desire for peace, basing the withdrawals on a (non-existent) increase in South Vietnamese troop strength. And so all concerned are involved in a complicated system of conditions and counter-conditions, in which, it is true, the American and South Vietnamese sides are showing greater willingness than the others.

Probably more is going on behind the scenes in Paris than meets the eye but a long time can still be expected to elapse before a solution is reached.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 May 1969)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

After the General, what next?

FRANCE NEEDS BROADER POLITICAL BASIS

DIE ZEIT
WOCHENZEITUNG
FÜR POLITIK, WIRTSCHAFT, HANDEL UND KULTUR

Maybe history will one day regard General de Gaulle's referendum defeat as proof that the General was dazzled by his own greatness. How else could he have slithered into this defeat? If he saw what was coming then it is the first time a referendum has ever been used as an instrument of political suicide.

Commentators are of course, always wiser after the event, but one conclusion was easy to reach after careful study of the election results in recent years: support for the General was steadily declining.

In the last four years four referenda of various kinds have taken place, each with two votes. In every case a clear majority opposed General de Gaulle and his supporters the first time round. The General only ever got his way in the second vote, by blackmailing the French and playing on their fear of an uncertain future. Even in the major electoral victory last June this was the case.

On this occasion too, General de Gaulle believed the timing was right and had confidence in the magic of his words and the power of his personality and brought them to bear as soon as circumstances began to turn against him. He wanted a plebiscite in order to strengthen his hand in France and the world at large.

During the unrest a year ago Premier Pompidou had the greatest of difficulty in talking the General out of a referendum. He only gave way when the Premier had convinced him that a general election would keep him and his regime in power and that a referendum would not.

It may well be that the General never got over M. Pompidou being right despite his, de Gaulle's, deep-seated convictions to the contrary. The way in which M. Pompidou was dismissed and administrative and consitutional reform was made the subject of a plebiscite lend weight to conjectures of this kind.

Adieu!

(Cartoon: Flora/DIE ZEIT)

France can no longer be identified with one individual. There will have to be some getting used to a more complicated state of affairs. Will unrest, strikes, continually changing Cabinets and crises be the shape of things to come? Or will there even be the latent threat of revolution or a left- or right-wing coup?

It is, of course, too early to come to final conclusions but a number of factors should not be forgotten. In the evening after the referendum the leaders of all three major trade unions pledged themselves to do nothing that might prejudice the chances of a fresh victory for anti-Gaullist forces in the forthcoming elections.

In other words, they are not going to play the weapon of anxiety into their opponents' hands and create a desire for law and order. The Presidential election campaign will therefore not take place against a background of threatened organised social unrest. But afterwards the new Cabinet will be confronted with social demands and economic problems. It will have a hard time in defending the franc.

Coup unlikely

The prospects of a coup d'état are also gratifyingly slight. No one in the forefront of the political stage could be accused of possibly thinking in terms of one. The only point is that the General himself, who must of course be considered over and above all such suspicions, has unfortunately shown time and time again over the last ten years how little importance one need attach to individual articles and provisions of the constitution when they prove a nuisance.

For France a great deal will depend on the choice of candidates and the result of the Presidential elections. A declaration by the Socialist Party expressly calls on the new man to stand by the 1958 constitution, the basis of the Fifth Republic. In the centre of the political spectrum many people share this outlook.

Behind the scenes the middle-of-the-road men are already on the lookout for a new majority, which, however, appears likely to have much in common with the so-called third force of the Fourth Republic, the weakness of which will not have faded from memory.

Even then this group was unable to compete with Gaullism and Communism. It will not be able to form an adequate majority now either. Now, it is true, a third force would benefit from the Socialist Party's determination to steer clear of a coalition with the Communists since the invasion of Czechoslovakia. But the mere prospect of a new alliance threatens to split the Socialists into left- and right-wing factions.

Alternatives

The way the political scene looks at the moment the man who contests the second round of the Presidential election with Gaullist candidate Pompidou could be either a Centre candidate or a Communist. M. Pompidou is bound to beat a Communist but he would have a lesser time against a candidate agreed on by the Centre, particularly if this candidate was to be Alain Poher, who as President of the Senate is already in office as caretaker President.

Powerful forces in nearly all parties favour M. Poher's candidature. He would amount to a pro-European candidate.

Whatever the outcome of the Presidential elections the government will need a broader political base. Only a coalition of Gaullists and Centrists could provide it. One need only read between the lines of many a public statement to see that this coalition is already in the *making*. This means that France's administration-to-be is bound to include a number of convinced supporters of the Common Market and in this at least will differ from the governments of the Gaullist era.

Ernst Weisenfeld
(DIE ZEIT, 2 May 1969)

No substantial change in Europe expected

Frankfurter Neue Presse

How far has General de Gaulle's resignation changed the political landscape of Europe? This question, an answer to which is being sought in every capital city, cannot remain an acedemic issue. Consequences for practical political activity must be drawn from the conclusion reached. Above all, the reappraisal that has become necessary and advisable must be based on an approach that is both loyal and sober.

Not everything said in the first spontaneous wave of reaction to the General's decisions need be taken at face value. Many a comment had not been thought through to its logical conclusion. Even so, the risk remains that the wish may be father to some half-baked thought or other that could give rise to mistakes with far-reaching consequences.

It would be a mistake, for instance, for France's friends and allies to assume that dealings with Paris will now be much easier. A direct attempt might be made to accomplish aims that have so far foundered on the General's "non".

Ideas of this kind are not, of course, merely the result of unlimited imagination, but for the time being they are only partly true. It remains to be seen whether there is more to it than that. Decisions cannot be forced on anyone. Any attempt to do so would certainly be a mistake.

General de Gaulle has unquestionably given French foreign policy both in- and outside the Common Market and other alliances new directions, and no matter how much his policies appeared to represent an abrupt break with the previous policies they were not without a certain logic.

The General's foreign policy decisions, not to mention his visions, were opposed in his own country, but this does not mean that they will disappear from the Elysée Palace together with General de Gaulle and find their way to the junk room of history.

It cannot be said that General de Gaulle's foreign policy was not in the least that of France. The two may not exactly coincide and they may further diverge in future but at the moment the Fifth Republic still bears the features of its creator.

It owes a number of notable successes to the General's foreign policy and France need not be expected to be so foolish as to sacrifice them with an easy conscience.

At the moment France has problems of an entirely different kind than the liquidation of General de Gaulle's foreign policy legacy. Continuity and internal stability are the prime considerations. They should be first and foremost for France's partners too.

Hans Kraiker
(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 30 April 1969)

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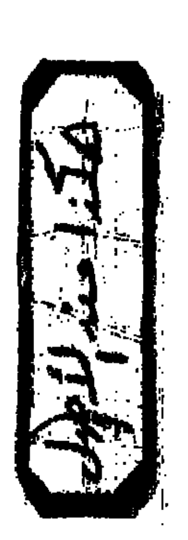
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LAW

Expunging past errors with present views of justice

In the Cabinet debate on the statute of limitations on murder and genocide the government clearly made every effort and went straight to essentials. The cabinet decision is only conceivable against the background of the momentous fact that today, 24 years after the end of the Second World War, many of the crimes committed under the Nazi regime are still undetected.

Formally, it can be declared that the abolition of the statute of limitations affects every murderer, no matter when he committed his crime. In effect, however, the new laws will apply principally to Nazi criminals.

This is one reason why the Bill cannot be discussed in the light of legal arguments alone It is related to the great, consuming question of how a people can reconcile itself with its past, a past that is so much present that many murderers of that time are still in our midst.

Minister of Justice Ehmke showed a measure of understanding for those who say that this sad chapter of German history should be closed once and for all. But he argued that the German people could shake off its feelings of collective guilt only when it continues to prosecute those who, as individuals, were guilty of murder under Nazi rule.

It seems that this approach of the Minister of Justice, although manifestly logical, is nevertheless too abstract to convince those people whose feelings of guilt he wishes to expunge. For, a people is not an entity with collective guilt feelings. It comprises individuals with at times very dissimilar views and sentiments.

Consider the generation that has grown up since the war, or was even born after the war. It is hardly tenable to suggest that for these young people collective guilt was ever a big problem. They were not alive when the millions were murdered in the name of the National Socialist state, and naturally they adopt a fairly candid approach to those years and also to attempts to share some of the stigma with them.

Those who lived through these years of terror, with personal commitment or merely with an external show of going with the crowd, are quite another proposition, needless to say. The overwhelming majority of this generation are not personally guilty for what happened, unless a person is guilty for having survived the Nazi era without having actively opposed the regime. This generation of, in the main, personally guiltless people has, for the most part, still today, a guilt complex. At least, the majority cannot recall the years from 1933 to 1945 with an impartial mind.

They are prevented from doing so by the very fact that they were there at the time there among people who were criminals, not on their own initiative but at the behest of the state in which almost everyone dirtied his fingers in one way or another.

For this generation there can be no *Verjährung* when this is interpreted to mean the freedom to forget. Morally, this is impossible

The Nazi past is unforgettable, in the truest sense of the word. It is unforgettable in a very real sense for those who lived through it, but also for those who cannot feel guilty because they were not yet born at the time. All suffer in the awareness of being unable to dissociate themselves from the history of the people to which they belong. They suffer because they are living in a world in which the German name will inevitably be associated perhaps for decades to come with the terrible events of the war.

Thus seen, there does exist a collective guilt that cannot be expiated for many years to come, even if this guilt is identified only with recollections of an environment which does not readily distinguish between "good" and "bad" Germans – how could it?

There can be no acquittal from this guilt in the sense of an historical pressure ranging from a past that cannot be surmounted to a future waiting to be surmounted. The national conscience certainly cannot be appeased merely by taking the appropriate legal steps to ensure that Nazi war criminals can be prosecuted beyond 31 December, beyond the extent to which this is already possible following court rulings in specific cases.

The guilt feelings of those who, objectively seen, were guiltless, but whose "fault" it was to have lived in the Nazi time, cannot be mitigated by abolishing the statute of limitations on crimes of the truly guilty.

This argument also applies to those who continually urge "drawing a line under the affair," those who seriously think that this line could be drawn simply by terminating Nazi trials. The statute of limitations is a legal matter. It is not a moral institution which after twenty or 25 years can impart to the individual the grace to forget moral guilt incurred in the service of the nation.

The central question in this matter therefore seems to be whether this people, in its responsibilities to itself, can



dare allow the statute to engine giving still undiscovered Nazi criminals the right to walk openly amongst us without fear of apprehension.

Those who think they can brush aside these questions because they are uncomfortable are mistaken. Essentially, these questions lead to the conclusion that this people owes it to itself to remove the statute of limitations, not only because of a few hundred Nazi murderers, who may still be in our midst, but because it is necessary to emphasise the fact that in this matter, in the question of personal guilt in one degree of another, the book cannot simply be closed.

After all, when will a people ever be allowed to stand beside its own history as if it were unrelated to it?

Helmut Rieger
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 30 April 1969)

The consequences of new generation's vote

In five months, on 28 September, young voters will go to the polls who were born not in Hitler's Reich but in the vanquished Germany of the occupation powers. They have never experienced the Germany of their fathers.

From stories, history lessons and books they know that the last all-German chancellor evaded the day of reckoning for the consequences of his politics by committing suicide on 30 April 1945. Hitler dreamed of a thousand year's Reich, but after twelve years he and his henchmen caused the Reich to collapese in ruins. The occupation powers divided it up establishing their own systems of government in the various sectors.

Thus, a communist system developed in the Soviet Zone of Germany, while a democratic, parliamentary system took root in the American, British and French Zones. This is still the position today.

Many Germans were deceived by the hope that they could overcome the scars left by Hitler's actions by adhering to the right of self-determination. A reunification of Germany as a political entity proved impossible against the background of the international balance of power. Nevertheless, we do not recognise the partition of Germany. For many, this is adding two and two and getting five.

The younger the generation, the less qualms it has apparently about recognising the German Democratic Republic. Probably, in the analysis of the situation the old and the young concur in most points, but opinions are still often widely divided on what should be done on the basis of this analysis.

The tensions resulting from this difference of approach are everywhere apparent in the so-called German Question. At an increasing rate these tensions are being transmitted to the parties and the Bundestag.

For years, the parties have adhered to a common policy in the German Question, apart from the short-lived Social Democratic German Plan in 1959. This solidarity is now fraying at the edges.

In the parties' youth and student organisations, including those of the Christian Democratic Union, the first jolts were given to the parties' common stand. The government's policy was called in question by local branches of the SPD and the Free Democratic Party who called for full political recognition of the German Democratic Republic. In the Bundestag the same policy is maintained only with devious interpretations and the basic support of all parties arguing that the communist-ruled part of Germany should not become foreign soil for people on this side of the demarcation line.

Beyond this show of solidarity, however, the parties are endeavouring, sometimes with confusing arguments, to appear realistic, progressive and "nationalistic." The FDP, anxious to attract young voters, speaks in a comparative sense of political recognition of the GDR, and proposes a general treaty with the East Berlin regime

The SPD, with advocates and opponents of recognition in its ranks, says it is unrealistic to deny the political existence of the other part of Germany. The SPD proposes non-discriminating talks and contractual agreements with the East Berlin government.

The Christian Democratic and Christian Social Unions, anxious to muster the most influential opponents of every form of recognition, are prepared to open talks with the East Berlin government and come to some agreement providing even for an exchange of plenipotentiaries; but they adamantly refuse to ascribe to the *Gebilde* (to use Chanceller Kiesinger's word) in the Soviet-occupied zone the attributes of a nation since the legal definition of a nation presumes a distinct national people which can only be recognised as such when it can decide its own fate and identity. The question as to who can give this people (of whom no one can say with certainly what it rellay thinks) the freedom to decide its fate ends in a meditation on power and futility.

All offensive or defensive debates on the German Question, whether past, present or future, inevitably breathe the odium of illusion, of the wish to bring about a change and of the inability to do so. This is so, no matter how subtle and justifiable the arguments are on all sides.

This is not to suggest that the discussions held in the Bundestag are worthless. They reflect, against the background of world political events, the progress made in inter-German relations.

A wide chasm separates Konrad Adenauer's wishful dream of "reunification via Nato" and Chancellor Kiesinger's realistic admission that a reunited Germany would be a "critical quantity" in the European balance of power. Such insights and distinctions of political parties in the Federal Republic fall on deaf ears in East Berlin. Walter Ulbricht, supported by the Soviet government, wants nothing less than a legal, binding pledge from the Federal Republic that it recognises the inviolability of the rights of the German Democratic Republic. He wants the seal of recognition of democratic Germany on the communist system.

This is Ulbricht's starting-point for his kind of reunification. This is also the reason why a man like Herbert Wehner, the Minister of All-German Affairs, whose pragmatic approach makes him the most dynamic force in the government's German policy, also calls a halt at putting this seal on the division of Germany.

Perhaps a later generation of politicians will give the GDR its seal of recognition. What the present generation must do is prevent another war in central Europe.

This task has priority.

Reinhard Appel
(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 28 April 1969)

HOME AFFAIRS

On the Non-proliferation Treaty

AN INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER WILLY BRANDT

Question: Herr Minister, after your report to the Cabinet and the subsequent debate is it now more probable that the Federal government will deliver a final assessment of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty before the Bundestag elections next autumn? And does "final assessment" mean that signing the treaty is then a matter of course?

Brandt: This week, the Cabinet has undertaken a final review of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. The talks have shown that the views of the Cabinet members present are not very dissimilar.

The Cabinet agreed that efforts to clarify more fully some questions involved should be continued. This will not take up very much time. It would seem logical that when the final draft is approved signature will follow automatically.

Question: Considering the position now reached in the discussion of the treaty, what are your views on the positive and negative aspects of the present of uncertainty in this matter, against the background of this country's security and economic interests?

Brandt: This present phase has had little bearing on our security and our economic interests. From an international viewpoint the treaty is not yet in force, and our security is guaranteed by the Western defence alliance

Questions of political integrity, which are of great importance for us, do exist, however. It would not be in our interests to postpone the final decision longer than would seem justifiable from an international point of view.

Question: Can you say what decisive issue or issues must still be clarified in the Cabinet's opinion, or at least of certain members of the Cabinet? Do you think it will be possible to come to an agreement satisfactory to all sides?

Brandt: Essentially, one complex comprises many sigle problems. This is the understandable desire, which I share, that the greatest possible degree of solidarity will be achieved to ensure that the members of the European Atomic Energy Community will reach a satisfactory verification agreement.

Final certitude, of course, will only be given in talks between Eurotom and the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency, and these talks can only begin when this country has signed the treaty. Personally, I hope that the difficulties still encountered in this matter can be removed as far as possible depending on circumstances before the Federal Republic signs.

Question: What can you do, as Minister of Foreign Affairs, to bring about further clarification in Moscow and Washinton in questions of security, including the proposed rights of intervention?

Brandt: I was not given to understand that the Cabinet expects me, as Minister of Foreign Affairs, to take special initiative in this question vis-á-vis the Soviet government. As far as relations with the American government are concerned, it will be a question of reaffirming present interpretations.

Question: Is it true that the Soviet Union intends to delay ratification of the treaty until this country has signed? If so, what does this situation hold in store for us?

Brandt: Our decisions will be made in accordance with our own interests. The Soviet government has not given us to understand that it intends to approach the final solution as you suggested.

Question: Will it be possible— as all parties insist that it will — to keep the nuclear non-proliferation treaty out of the election campaign, or could a conflict arise in which one side could accuse the other of betraying national interests if the treaty were supported?

Brandt: If a decision is made, it will be a decision of the Federal government. This decision must then be accepted by all. Otherwise the danger of primitive arguments being advanced will be great.

I am confident, however, that the great majority of the population will



Willy Brandt

(Photo: Archiv/Landesbildstelle Berlin)

agree with those who say: firstly, we are not deciding under pressure, secondly, we are resolutely defending our justifiable interests; and thirdly, we must avert the danger of isolation.

Reinhard Appel

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 26 April 1969)

A different view of the NPT

AN INTERVIEW WITH SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH MINISTER GERHARD STOLTENBERG

Research Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg has drawn attention to possible limitations on the chemical industry. In an interview with Welt am Sonntag, Herr Stoltenberg said that the prospect of a non-proliferation treaty on biological and chemical weapons must be recognised in time. He suggested that because of the "final assessment" of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty talks would continue with the Soviet Union on the rights of intervention of the Soviet government. In taking this stand, Herr Stoltenberg has expressed disapproval of Minister of Foreign Affairs Willy Brandt who declared in an interview with Welt am Sonntag that he did not think the Federal Cabinet expects him to make any particular recommendations to the Soviet government.

Question: Rumour has it that the United States and the Soviet Union are also preparing a non-proliferation agreement for biological and chemical weapons. How would this affect this country's chemical industry?

Stoltenberg: For some years scientific discussion have been based on the assumption that the lethal effects of biological and chemical weapons are as powerful as those of nuclear arms. UN Secretary-General U Thant has appointed a committee of fifteen experts to examine these problems. Five members are scientists from communist countries. A ban on B-and-C weapons is part of the 1924 Geneva Convention.



Gerhard Stoltenberg

(Photo: Archiv/Bundesbildstelle)

If a plea is put forward for comprehensive controls in this field, however, many scarcely soluble technical problems would be raised, considering the nature of research and development in the fields of biology, pharmacy and chemistry. We must be prepared for discussions on this subject, and also for renewed attempts to introduce unilateral controls following the pattern of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

Question: Have the Cabinet discussions brought about a clarification of the somewhat contradictory interpretations of the nuclear non-proliferation agreement?

Stoltenberg: The exhaustive Cabinet debate on the final assessment of the treaty was marked by a differentiated and realistic exposition of the political, economic and scientific aspects involved.

The debate contrasted refreshingly from one-sided generalisations such as were heard in speeches at the recent Social Democratic party conference. The government's unanimous resolution to continue the debate seeking further clarification of vital questions corresponds with our basic interests.

I hope that after these discussions this country's views in this matter will be affirmed more emphatically than has been the case within the context of foreign policy.

Question: The Federal government does not want "double controls." What exactly is meant by this? How can the problem be solved?

Stoltenberg: We want the system of controls of the European Atomic Energy Community to apply to the Federal Republic, as to all other Common Market countries. This is to say that the powers of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna should be confined to controlling the supervisory reports of Euratom. This "verification" is possible but no means assured, according to the treaty.

This is a vital question for the Common Market. It is a central issue in the final assessment of the treaty.

Similarly, we must be assured of the full support in this matter of America, Great Britain and other important allies in order to avoid serious hazards for our economic and scientific future.

Question: The question of the Soviet government's presumed right of intervention must still be clarified, isn't that so?

Stoltenberg: Talks with the Soviet Union on this and other questions will continue. The outcome will be of great importance for the final assessment of the treaty by the Federal government and the Bundestag.

Question: Twenty-four hours after the Cabinet meeting, Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs Willy Brandt urged a resumption of the treaty talks as soon as possible. In this connection do you think it possible that the clarification of controversial questions can take place before the summer break?

Stoltenberg: The constant theoretical dispute over the appopriate date for a final decision on the treaty is an excuse for our partners to spread uncertainty regarding our policy and to call in question the sincerity with which we defend our objectives. This state of affairs should be considered by every responsible politician when making a public statement.

Klaus Hoff

(WELT am SONNTAG, 27 April 1969)

Indecision on the NPT

This country's nuclear experts cannot make up their minds. In the politically controversial question of signing the nuclear non-proliferation treaty they are shirking a definite answer — Yes or No.

At this year's meeting of nuclear experts in Frankfurt, they presented a list of demands which in their opinion must be fulfilled if this country's foreign markets in the reactor sector are not to be lost. The nuclear forum also concluded, however, that it is a political matter whether the controversial questions are clarified before the non-proliferation treaty is signed or after its ratification.

The nuclear experts did no great service to the politicians with this meek statement. Who but they can decide whether the treaty in its present form and in its present interpretation by the nuclear powers is economically damaging to the "have-not" Federal Republic? Who but they can decide whether the treaty poses an unreasonable obstacle to research in the field of peaceful exploitation of atomic energy?

A clear Yes or No from the experts would be a considerable help to the government in making its final decision.

(DIE ZEIT, 25 April 1969)

THE PRESS

Stern stands up for editorial independence

Deeply concerned, Henri Nannen, editor of *Stern*, the illustrated weekly, felt obliged to tell his readers all. Under the pretentious heading "On the Freedom of a Newspaper Man" he reported, in his letter to readers, on the editorial charter the Hamburg magazine intends to proclaim.

The intention, Nannen wrote, is to safeguard "what the paper's journalists and publishers have jointly developed: freedom for editorial staff to continue to write what they think without fear of financial or other consequences.

"And the charter is also designed to forestall any future attempts to question this basic condition of our work as a result of financial transactions."

There was talk of the lush green that could expand from *Stern* over the "increasingly barren Press landscape" and the seeds that the well-paid *Stern* writers are prepared to sow.

In other words, the 132 staff journalists at *Stern* would like to be entered in the annals of Press history as champions and pioneers of a freedom of the Press that re-defines and re-states the rights and duties of journalists to the proprietors.

They have certainly taken a first step. After weeks of deliberation a committee representing leading and politically-interested members of staff, including editor Nannen himself, has drafted an eight-point paper.

Details are not to be published until the final shape the document is to take is clear. Until then the eight points are being given the same security treatment as one of *Stern's* stories, scooped from under the others' noses and guarded like a state secret until the coup is converted into cash at the newsstand.

Yet journalists tend not to be very good at keeping secrets. The first jewels from *Stern's* treasure chest have already been l aked to television and *Der Spiegel*.

The men and women concerned are none too happy about the disclosures. Although not exactly world-beaters at paying due regard to personal feelings, they would like a more serious view of their plans to be taken than a cut version making them out to be virtuous church elders rebelling against the vicar.

In *Der Spiegel* Henri Nannen is described as appointing himself his staff's advocate. Is Nannen a new Mao Tse-tung at the head of a *Stern* cultural revolution? Of course not, the people concerned retort, and they should know.

On 18 April they voted their boss by a majority of 84 per cent on to an editorial advisory council consisting of seven staffers, the first function of which is to present the planned charter in such a way as to gain the approval of the proprietors. The voting merely bore out what was already clear to all. Nannen is *Stern* just as Augstein is *Der Spiegel*. Neither can be voted out of office.

The composition of the new editorial advisory council also makes another point clear. The men elected are the men who make the magazine and give it its particular stamp — Nannen's seconds-in-command Schuller and Gillhausen, the politically minded Gründler and Bissinger and thoughtful reporter Jaenecke.





Informed comment is more important than pin-ups

The voting was a victory for the establishment. The trend is not set by professional revolutionaries such as literary outside left Erich Kuby. Both the council and the eight points are, to use the latest terminology, immanent to the system and revisionistic, that is to say, moderate.

The *Stern* campaign began with a shock that shook both the editorial staff and the publishers to the marrow. Richard Gruner, main shareholder of Gruner + Jahr Verlag among whose publications *Stern* is a rose among *Jasmin*, *Constanze*, *Es*, *Eltern*, *Petra*, *Brigitte*, *Twen* and *Capital*, was obviously annoyed at his partners and seemed prepared to sell.

Whether he wanted to hand over control to rival publisher Heinrich Bauer or merely wanted Bauer to make a bid so that he could gain some idea of the market value of his share in Gruner + Jahr is a question that does not admit of a definite answer. In comparison determining who was responsible for the First World War is child's play.

When the *Stern* staff heard of the argument between the publishers and Gruner's intention to sell they immediately thought of the fate that had befallen the editorial staff of *Jasmin* and *Twen*, which changed hands three times last year.



Henri Nannen (Photo: dpa)

The swings and roundabouts of the newspaper trade in this country, which have been having a heyday of late, with journalists changing hands like so many head of cattle, seemed now to have reached *Stern*.

The staff of *Stern*, who like the late Paul Sethe regard Gerd Bucerius' illustrated magazine as an oasis of freedom, had visions of having to kow-tow to Bauer in the same stable as *Quick*, *Bravo*, *Neue*, *Revue*, *Praline* and *Neue Post*. The outcome of the merger would be mammoth magazine publishing concern.

It would certainly have earned a bomb for the proprietors but the journalistic and political independence of *Stern* was at stake. *Stern* staffers who used to word for Bauer but made a getaway at some stage of their journalistic career recalled that tough methods are the order of the day at Bauer-Verlag: Management interests prevail.

Bauer was a traumatic prospect. *Stern's* editorial staff reached the moment of decision. They authorised Henri Nannen to inform the proprietors that they would go on strike if there were a sell-out to Bauer. Their threat was not without effect. The proprietors of Gruner + Jahr settled their differences.

The spontaneous didactic play enacted to underscore the limits of publisher power was a complete success. *Stern*, aged 21, hand flexed its muscles and realised its strength. Has not the shabby licenced paper of Germany's darkest post-war hour printed money for the publishers in the course of its short life and gained them access to the financial aristocracy?

Leo Brawand joined the staff from *Der Spiegel's* new skyscraper. The employment of purely capitalist principles in a sector based on intellectual achievements was out of the question, he commented on *Panorama*, the television current affairs programme. "The proprietors will have to think of something new where the conditions of ownership are concerned," he declared.

A theoretical basis had been provided for the *Stern* story. The immediate shock died down and gave way to sober considerations. How can we make sure, the staff wondered, that editorial freedom is not in future endangered by the publishers' financial transactions?

The answer they hit on is contained in one of the key statements of the charter. Before selling their shares in the firm the proprietors must inform the editorial advisory council in good time and give its views a hearing.

There is no question of a veto, not even one of consultations. The intention is to limit the publishers' power of disposal over their property indirectly, not directly. On being informed of a potential buyer whom they regard as a threat to editorial freedrom the staff have time to organise resistance and a deterrent ranging from a strike to undated notice to quit signed by the entire journalistic staff.

There can be no doubt that a team that will not play ball, putting up the shutters or even deserting the fort, considerably reduce the value of the product.

The editorial board would also like to forestall the appointment of an editor in whom they have no confidence. The staff are to be able to vote out of office an editor who no longer has the support of a three-quarters majority of their number. An editor is not to be sacked by the publishers either as long as he enjoys the confidence of 75 per cent of the staff.

Does not this mean that the editor will be permanently at the mercy of votes of confidence? No, the drafters of the charter reply. All they want to do is to prevent a man from reaching the top who aims to change the editorial policy of the present progressive, liberal *Stern* as they see it and attach greater importance to the naked bosom than to political information.

In short, they are afraid that a circulation whizz-kid might be sent in with the blessing of the publishers and set about transforming their *Stern* of old into a sex mag pure and simple with the aid of twenty new men.

They want to prevent themselves from having to publish material for which they are not prepared to take responsibility. They want to prevent manipulation of editorial funds for management reasons. The staff do not tire of assuring that their charter is designed not to schange the existing state of affairs but to avert future dangers.

At the moment they can write what they please. They have approved of editor-designate Claus Jacobi too. They are counting on his support and have specifically arranged voting procedures so that he can be voted on to the council the day he joins the staff.



Claus Jacobi (Photo: dpa)

The charter is only a beginning. Participation may be the next step. The editorial staff is considering whether to try and gain a share in the firm. Banks are obviously prepared to grant the staff up to twenty million Marks credit.

The staff will then have on foot in the door of the board-room. They will have access to all business information and will be able to participate in investment decisions. Journalists as their own management. In a capitalist society everything is possible.

The three men who control Gruner + Jahr have yet to decide. Gerd Bucerius, a tireless champion of Press freedom in the form of a large number of publishers and vociferous opponent of newspaper mergers, appreciates what his editorial staff are trying to pull off, but at the same time is well aware that he will be sacrificing part of his publisher's freedom.

Richard Gruner, who inadvertently sparked off the whole campaign, takes a sober view. As far as he is concerned the magazines he publishes are, apart from *Stern* and *Capital*, part of the entertainment world.

Freedom of the Press, the *Stern* rebellion has shown, is not only publishers' freedom. Journalists too want a greater stake than they have had in the past.

Haug von Kuenheim

(DIE ZEIT, 25 April 1969)

■ CINEMA

Film Promotion Institute celebrates

A YEAR OF SUCCESSES AND DISAPPOINTMENTS

The Film Promotion Institute (FFA) in West Berlin has now completed its first, and possibly most difficult year. It has not hit the headlines during this period and the general public has shown little interest in its work.

It has been a year of persistent effort and intensive, detailed work, a time of reorganisation rather than of fifth policy-making. The beginnings of success can be perceived, but the institute has also experienced its first disappointments. But disregarding this it can take credit for having achieved something which will be important for later developments.

The institute's reputation in the eyes of most of those involved in the film industry is still high, even if it has not exactly risen. However, the critics – especially amongst the young film-makers – have not been silenced and just recently they have again been making their views known.

After such a short time it is not really possible to take stock of FFA's activities and its effects on film production, distributors and cinema-owners. Even so certain trends are under way, criticism can be voiced and with appropriate caution one can hazard a preview of developments during the next few years.

The fulfilment of the Film Promotion Institute's very first task, namely improving the quality of Federal Republic films of all types, is causing FFA's president, Bundestag member Dr Hans Toussaint, some concern: "As yet it is impossible to tell whether quality has improved, but in my view the desire of Federal Republic film producers to improve quality is not sufficiently lively."

However, no one at FFA pretends that there will not always be a broad cross-section of moderate films and happily production of Federal Republic films increased further since the introduction of the institute's first measures.

But in West Berlin people are aware that this is not enough. Increased

But in West Berlin people are aware that this is not enough. Increased quantity must be matched by improved quality; otherwise FFA will have failed to fulfill *an important task.*

But this is where the institute runs into difficulties. It cannot act as a censor, on the other hand, according to Dr Toussaint, it can tell producers quite frankly that the public and parliament are only interested in promoting films so long as they are of artistic value. At the same time, the FFA president warn that good entertainment films should not be denigrated, a good deal of artistic sensitiity is required for their production. Entertainment and artistic value are not mutually exclusive.

At this point, here are a few statistics: the number of films produced in the Federal Republic rose from 75 in 1967 to 100 in 1968. Most producers submitted applications to FFA for the basic subsidy of 150,000 Marks.

So far 65 films have fulfilled the essentiel requirements and several other films will qualify for grants within the two-year period during which the 500,000 Marks (800,000 Marks for recommended films) must be netted. Apart from the basic subsidy, these 65 film also received 100,000 Marks for handing over television rights to the Film Promotion Institute.

It is known that FFA gets its funds from the ten Pfennig surcharge on every cinema ticket. Hence, attendance figures determine to what extent the institute can encourage the film industry.

However, this is where FFA's worries begin. Last year cinema attendance reached a new low, the 180 million tickets sold was well below the anticipated fugure of 210 million. This meant that FFA's expected income was considerably reduced and its budget hat to be revised.

The reduced income is a burden to a fund which FFA had been very anxious to use to improve the quality of Federal Republic films, namely the additional subsidy fund. According to the Film Promotion Act, a film can be granted additional funds – classified by the FFA's small commission as a good entertainment film.

Experience to date indicates that a situation may arise in which there is scarcely any difference between a film which just meets the requirements for a subsidy and acquires 500,000 Marks in gross distribution fees within the two years, and a good recommended film which is a box-office success.

But this was not the original intention. The real idea of the additional subsidy was to encourage the producers of worthwhile films and to provide economic incentives for them to make more films.

It is difficult to estimate future cinema attendance figures. Nonetheless, FFA thinks that the 1968 figures could represent a kind of all-time low. Three Cinema visits per person, per year is a very low figure which is worse than statistics anywhere else in the world. However figures for the first few months of this year justify cautious optimism.

Leaving this aside, FFA is short of about five million Marks for last year and the situation is unlikely to be much better this year. The money has got to come from somewhere if the efficacy of FFA's work is not to suffer.

As well as film promotion, the institute's expenditure also involves assistance *to cinemas, supporting new advertising* methods and institutions, and encouraging the production of short films. Demands that the ticket surcharge should be increased are already being voiced.

Expenditure on advertising is also threatened if the reduction in income continues. For the time being the advertising of Federal Republic films abroad is to be stepped up. On the home front, a thorough analysis of the cinema market has been commissioned – this is something quite new in the film industry.

By the end of the summer a motive study will be completed and this will be backed up by a market research analysis. Then decisions will have to be reached as to which sections of the population future advertising should concentrate on: for example, those who never go to the cinema, or people who go ten times a year and are to be encouraged to go fifteen times per year.

Critics of the Film Promotion Act and of FFA angrily point out the, in their view, catastrophic effects of film promotion to date. They talk about erroneous economic thinking and indirect corruption. Producers of worthless sex films are still subsidised and encouraged to go on making inferior productions. Artistic considerations are being pushed into the background more and more, and being replaced by mere profit motives. On the other hand, young film-makers who take their work seriously are at a disadvantage and have been denied the urgently necessary, initial subsidies.

But the Film Promotion Act is also designed to provide economic encouragement, and as a Federal law it can only do this. The primary aim is to help a branch of the economy, which had virtually difficulty get back on its feet again by legally compelling it to help itself.

It is surely no surprise that some parasites are also exploiting the act. But do the critics want FFA to become a board of censors, responsible for deciding which productions are cheap sex films and which are not?

The basic idea is still right : film promotion yes but for those who are also prepared to take an economic risk. One of the issues which will help to decide the success or failure of FFA will certainly be whether or not the institute succeeds in promoting good entertainment films and recommended films more effectively so that such productions are economically more attractive.

The FFA is already considering plans with this aim in view. It has been suggested that the basic subsidy, television rights and the additional subsidy should be linked in a different way.

For example, buying TV rights could be made to depend on whether the film is recommended; this would prevent TV rights being acquired for films which are unlikely ever to be shown on television.

These are questions which must remain open until the law is amended. Dr Toussaint feels that a good time to introduce an amendment would be spring 1970 or possibly a little sooner.

Peter Borowsky
(Handelsblatt, 22 April 1969)

Emphasis on new blood at Berlinale

Thirs year's West Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale) will emphasise productions by young film-makers. The 19th festival will be held from 25 June to 6 July.

Organising officials have announced that reforms are envisaged which will include screenings in several parts of the city, an open forum for younger film-makers and discussions between producers, critics and film-goers. In additions, the categories for the international jury prizes will be eliminated.

The main Berlinale programme will once again consist of the competition with awards for the best feature and short films, the information show including films not involved in the competition, an open film forum with screenings of contemporary 35-mm and, for the first time, 16-mm feature films and the International Film Fair, an event organised strictly for the trade.

On this occasion the *Woche des jungen Films* (Young Film Week) is to be devoted to Yugoslavia. With the cooperation of Cinèmatheque Française, the retrospective will feature the most important films by Abel Gance.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 22 April 1969)



Do-it-yourself film-making

An original experiment which fell through last year because of resistance by television cameramen is to take place this year at the 3rd International Film Festival in Hof on the north Bavarian zonal border. The will festival last from 16 to 18 May.

The audience will be given the opportunity to make a film. During the first of the five festival events two cameras will be passed amongst the spectators and anyone who feels so inclined will be able to shoot a few feet of film. The exposed film will be sent to Munich straightaway and developed immediately. On the following day the film will be shown in Hof.

The Hof Film Festival was the first film-makers' gathering to despense with a jury. Heinz Badewitz who, together with the Werner Weinelt Gallery, is organising the festival also wants to show full-length films.

The American Peter Emanuel Goldman, who lives in Paris, has already agreed to come to Hof for the screening of *Wheel of Ashes.* This film was a success at the 1968 Venice Festival.

Horror, a terrifying vision produced by Süddeutscher Rundfunk and directed by Lilienthal, who now lives in London will be given its premiere in Hof as will Theo Gallehr's *Die deutschen Kleinstädter* (German Small Towns).

Uwe Brandner, the Bayreuth author, will present his first feature film which he is just finishing making with financial support from West Berlin's *Literarisches Colloquim.* Comparing the contributions from the Prague, West Berlin and Munich film academies could also prove interesting.

The Czechs intend to show four films which have not been seen in the Federal Republic hitherto. The short film programme is dominated by the Yugoslav Vlado Kristl with seven *mini-shorts.*

The whole group of independent film-makers from this country, Austria, Holland and Switzerland will be represented in Hof. Helmuth Costard, Werner Nekes, Dore O. and Thomas Struck will be there from Hamburg, Hannes Fuchs, the founder of *anderes Kino* in Munich, will be taking the complete *Filmwerk* to Hof, and the Dutch group will be led by Frans Swartjies.

Amateur film-makers in Bavaria have been asked to submit their 8-mm productions. It is hoped that a special two to three-hour programme will be compiled from this material.

With the aid of four tape-recorders Vlado Kristl is to record all conversations, discussions and comments by the spectators and later these will be edited to provide documentation on independent films.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 16 April 1969)

■ THINGS SEEN

In praise of beauty and durability

AN EXHIBITION OF EXPERIMENTS



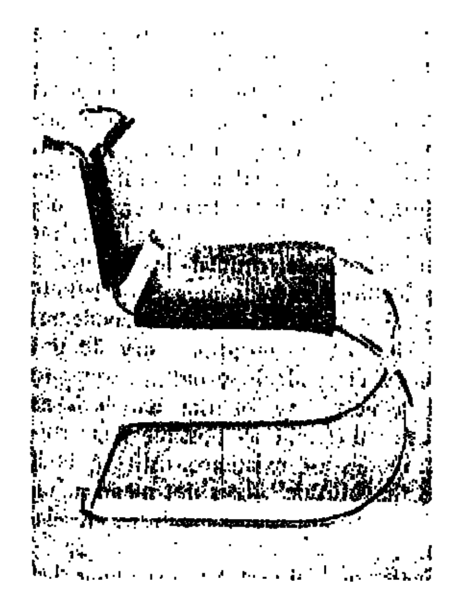
The idea was great and no one seems to know who first had it. Robert Gutmann, the new managing director of the Design Council says it is very old, but this does not alter the fact that it has now been realised for the first time.

The exhibition now open to the public in Offenbach's School of Industrial Art shows objects that are still in use in their original form and are still considered functional, modern and pleasant to the eye. D.C. Döpfner, who arranged the exhibition, mentioned a few interesting historical facts.

The "timeless" quality of many of these objects is appreciated when it is noted that at the time the oldest exhibits, Berlin china, were manufactured in 1820, Karl Friedrich Schinkel entered two architectural designs for a Berlin competition, one in renaissance and one in Gothic style. The names and concepts which instinctively occur to one when looking at this porcelaine – Adolf Loos, Bruno Taut and the Bauhaus – did not appear until one hundred years later.

Many other objects which were in general use at that time should really have been shown as well. For, the "no experiments" scrawled across a poster by an Offenbach art student on the opening day of the exhibition springs from a very basic error.

This exhibition contains nothing but experiments. These were greeted with much nose-wrinkling at the time, but they have survived contemporary norms



A chair - model 256

and many contemporary revolutionary models. Many experimental forms therefore have achieved general acceptance and are now regarded as "classical".

The exhibition in Offenbach is not suggesting that manufacturers should continue to produce this style in the hope of permanence. On the contrary, they should design with a view to purpose (the object must be practical), material (without stylistic deception) and context (unobtrusiveness). This leads then, for example, to the purely technical, transparent radio receivers which for about ten years have been everywhere taking the place of the cabinets, would-be furniture with stylistic pretensions.



German laboratory porcelain of 1820 (Photos: Katalog)

The novel light iron designed by the AEG appeared in 1962. The prosaic door-handles now in use date from the thirties. The elegant Barcelona chair designed by Mies van der Rohes was made in 1928; and the milk-white Odol bottle came on the market away back in 1892.

Glass, china, cutlery – in these and other manufacturing fields throughout the last century objects have been designed with clean unobtrusive qualities that are as modern as anything now on sale in the shops.

Motor cars, which are part of the picture, are shown on photomontage. In the case of this, the most expensive item of private consumption, certain difficulties of classification arose. The faster the vehicles became the more they were adapted to the laws of aerodynamics, but from year to year – apart from two well-known brands – they appear with different "status details."

Fashion too was another problem for the organisers who could not have been expected to amass great quantities of clothing. So photomontage in the background was again used.

No one style lasted for very long. The days are gone when in aristocratic and rich burgher families valuable garments were coveted items of inheritance.

Fashions are coming and going at an increasing rate. Nowadays, no one trend lasts longer than a season.

Indeed, the trend in utilitarian objects is largely dependent on fashion. Manufacturers who succed in adapting production to the fashion flux will win.

This is where the organisers exercise criticism. Wend Fischer, director of the *Neue Sammlung* in Munich, writes in the catalogue, "When styling serves to limit the durability of an object in the interests of commercial profit, we leave the field fo design and enter the shadowy realm of planned obsolescence, a world of buying and consumption centred around money-making. In this world the only way objects serve a purpose is by not doing so for very long. Contemporary objects which survive the passage of time defend against such inhuman and asocial commercialism the conception of the world in which we want to live."

It is difficult to take an impartial stand on this criticism. The automobile and clothing industries, two huge industrial sectors, are very dependent on a mobile market. Full employment depends so much on the automobile industry and its suppliers that employers and trade unions agree that strikes are deadly. These are the facts as they stand and they cannot be ignored.

Wend Fischer is confusing two discrete factors: functional form and the rapid flux of fashion. This flux which has gained momentum throughout the centuries in all fields of artistic design affects good and bad style. A utilitarian object does not pretend to be a work of art. No one would refuse to throw out a functional gas stove made in 1950 in favour of a functional, more "modern" stove made last year only because the older model is still presentable.

When plastic and cardboard furniture are firmly established, complete living-rooms in the Bauhaus tradition will be emptied, although one style of furniture is as "proper" as the other.

Is this making a mockery of the exhibition? By no means. The appeal for clean form is still sensible, whether this form is in use for a long or a short period.

Clean form

Incidentally, the form now considered appropriate has its own variety of status symbols. There is no sensible reason why a wine glass should have a high fragile form, unless it is to "raise" the noble beverage. Entire wine-drinking peoples know nothing about these traditions and for thousands of years have been using beakers, and then later glass.

The obsolescent world, which is only the inverse side of full employment, rests on very complex conditions. It can probably only be changed by a total revolution – in which other problems would replace the ones that were removed. From Prague to Peking the world offers sufficient material for study.

Summing up, it can be said that designer philosophy does not extend that far. The either-or decided on other levels. Designers should be content with designing elegant forms.

Rudolf Krämer-Badoni
(DIE WELT, 18 April 1969)

First modern art show to be staged at Nuremberg

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

The first biennale of modern art in the Federal Republic – Constructive Art, Elements and Principles – was opened in Nuremberg. It will last until 3 August.

About 100 artist from 22 countries, especially from the Eastern Bloc and South America, contributed 700 works.

The man who conceived the idea of a national art biennale, Dr Dietrich Mahlow, is the director of the Nuremberg Kunsthalle. Reiner Kallhardt, head of the Institute of Modern Art in Nuremberg, is responsible for the actual exhibition and the choice of theme.

Visitors to the Nuremberg biennale are to be introduced to the world of the Constructivists by way of special exhibitions. For this purpose former Bauhaus teacher Josef Albers, now living in America, created forty coloured squares. Russian Constructivism is represented by El Lissitzky, the Dutch *Stijl* movement by Georges Vantongerloo and Theo van Dösburg.

Examples of "concrete art" were contributed by the Swiss Max Bill and Richard Paul Lohse. A special section is devored to Construction of the Human Figure, with works by Roy Adzak from Britain, Joannis Avramidis, the Russian-born artist now living in Austria, Mario Ceroli from Italy, Le Corbusier, Sivert Lindblom and Oscar Schlemmer.

This country is represented at the biennale by Günther Fruhtrunk, Gerhard von Graevenitz, Thomas Lenk, Wolfgang Ludwig, Heinz Mack, Klaus Müller-Domnick, Günther Neusel and Wolfgang Schmidt. As a guest from the Soviet Zone the eight-year-old Hermann Glöckner from Dresden showed his *Linear Constellations.*

Thirty-one other German artist are to be seen in parallel exhibitions. Eastern Bloc countries including Yugoslavia, Hungary, Rumania and Czechoslovakia were officially represented. Individual contributions arrived from the Soviet Union and Poland.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 19 April 1969)

■ MEDICINE

Gastric ulcers discussed at internal medicine congress in Wiesbaden



"God made man in his image, but he made him suffer for it." Anatole France wrote this and the man who quoted it was the renowned Hamburg psychiatrist, Professor Bürger-Prinz, He was speaking in Wiesbaden's Rhine-Main Hall on the last day of the 75th congress of the Society for Internal Medicine.

Even before this jubilee event, the last day of the congress has traditionally been devoted to talks between specialists in the field of internal medecine and representatives of other medical fields. On this occasion the guests, for the first time, were delegates from the society for psychiatry and nervous disorders led by their president, Professor H. Ehrhardt from Marburg.

It is not surprising that this meeting, which can almost be considered revolutionary in this country, was arranged by Professor D. Jahn, president of the society for internal medicine and chairman of the society's 75th meeting. Professor Bürger-Prinz recalled his student days with Professor Jahn and traced their relations since then.

This congress, which usually begins on Monday morning, generally lasts until Thursday at noon. On this occasion, workers were noisely dismantling the pharmaceutical and industrial stands and the rows of seats in Pavilion A while in Pavilion B the internal medical experts were still deep in conversation with the neurologists and psychiatrists.

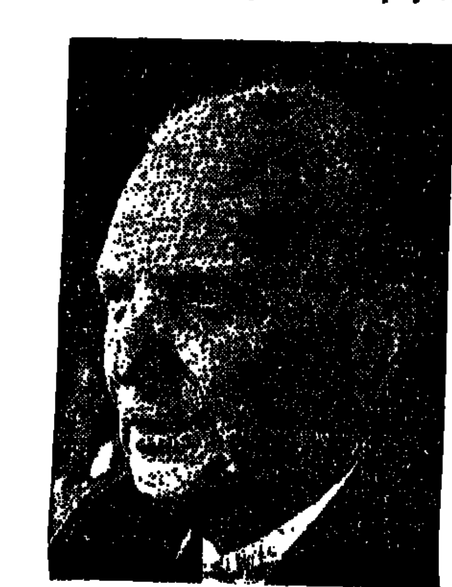
Three times more papers had been read than had been expected. Bürger-Prinz and Jahn's colleagues, exemplary for cooperation in their respective fields, are truly no longer working alone. Daily contacts have long since become routine before these were documented at a traditional medical congress.

Gastric ulcers are typical of the complaints which internal specialists and psychiatrists tackle together. Acute ulcers can be produced in animals exposed to mental strain, but not chronic ulcers. Responsibility especially can result in stomach and duodenal ulcers, depending on the individual's constitution.

The acid gastric juice is stimulated, attacking the mucous membrane. The constitutional balance is disturbed and the result is an ulcer.

Professor Demling from Erlangen reported that the acid content of the gastric juice increases, for example, when a person watches a thriller on television. *Music causes a decline in the volume of* gastric juice, and it is interesting to note that this varies with Bach, Mozart and beat.

The over-conscientious tend to be ulcer-prone. Often they are self-employed,



Professor D. Jahn

usually they neglect their family life. They smoke more and take more pills than other people.

When they have sex it is usually to prove something to themselves, or to prove themselves. More men than women are found in this category, and more men than women suffer from ulcers.

Women of a certain mental cast are often afflicted by articular rheumtism. Twenty per cent of women suffering from ulcers later develop articular rheumatism. This is an established fact, but no one knows why so many ulcer-prone males marry women who later develop articular rheumtism.

With these considerations in mind, stomach and other intestinal ulcers can partly be cured by psycho-pharmaceutics. The Basle psychiatrist, Professor Kielholz, said that treatment should be determined not by the somatic, that is, physical symptoms but by the nature of the psychopathological disturbance.

Fear or anxiety can have mental and physical sources, but there is no visible connection between fear and the extent of the ailment. Psycho-pharmaceutical treatment can mitigate fear, but in Professor Kielholz's opinion – and many internal specialists realised this was meant for them – psycho-pharmaceutics should not be administered without psychotherapy. "The doctor's personality can in certain circumstances remove anxiety more effectively than tranquilizers."

It is essential to understand the interconnections in the field of psychiatric ailments, especially in the case of the nervous vegetative system. Doctors always look for somatic symptoms, but never are any found.

This often turns people into "iatrogenous" individuals, hypochondriacs which the doctor himself has created. This results in depressions, and psychic tensions and depressive moods can, in turn, cause painful maladies.

Excitement and guilt feelings interfere with sleep. Such disturbances, however, which spring from psychic sources, should be treated not with sleeping pills psycho-pharmaceutical preparations but with anti-depressive agents.

Even in the case of pain from incurable cancer better effects are achieved with neuroleptic rather than analgesic agents. With neuroleptic treatment the patient is screened more effectively from the experience of pain. "In all of these cases the psyche comes before the body," said Professor Kielholz.

The most memorable event at this congress, perhaps also from the human point of view, was when the aged Professor M. Bleuler spoke about his life's work, endocrinological psychiatry. In all ailments of the internal secretional glands the psyche is affected. The reverse does not hold true. In the case of psychological disturbances corresponding metabolic disturbances are usually not found. This puts an end to one of the hopes of psychiatrists to effect cures in this direction.

Professor Martini lectured on what amounts to a tragic disease (tragic in the sense of antique tragedy – one patient spoke of the alternative *Verbluten oder Verblöden*, meaning bleeding to death or becoming an imbecile). This is cirrhosis of the liver.

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(Photos: dpa)

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In many cases this confused state is incurable. In the end dementia, or insanity, is inevitable. Here it can truly be asked whether the doctor is concerned with "curing" merely because the bleeding is stopped.

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A selection must be made. This is done most effectively, as in Hamburg, taking mental and characteristic features into consideration. The *ability to get along* with people while postponing *or even* renouncing altogether the *pleasures of the* flesh, the social environment of the patient and even of his relatives, the certainty that the patient can bear the mental burdens of the treatment – these are all factors that decide whether a person should be allowed to live or whether he must die.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 19 April 1969)

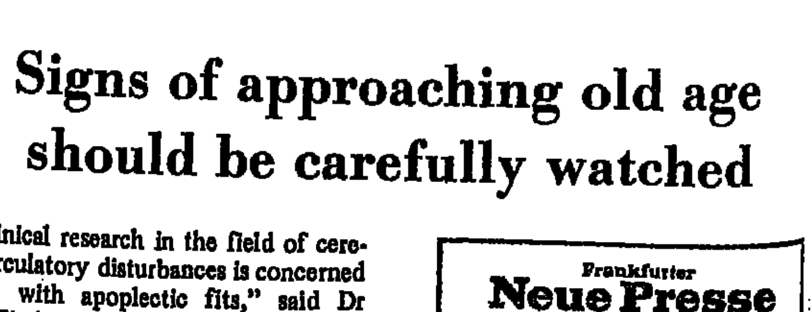
Most say – press ahead with heart transplants

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([illegible] Rundschau, 22 April 1969)



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Dr Fischer said that before arteriosclerosis can be detected and treated earlier, systematic examinations must be carried out on many patients. The first signs of poor circulation in the brain must be recorded statistically in whatever combinations they appear. Examination procedures must be developed in which the risk of doing damage is kept to a minium and patients are not subjected to much stress.

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These first symptoms can appear in the form of flagging ability, frequent feelings of weariness and sleeplessness.

Frankfurter Neue Presse

Such symptoms are rarely lacking in the case histories of patients.

Dr Fischer said that this makes it all the more difficult to determine when exactly treatment should commence.

For economic reasons, however, treatment in the earliest stages is not a simple matter, said Dr Fischer. In ten years there will be 8.5 million people over 65 in this country. Chemical preparations which are already on the market could considerably reduce the hazards of incipient old age.

Dr Wolfgang Köhler from Heiligenhafen State Neurological Clinic said that precautionary measures should be taken to ensure that the brain is always evenly supplied with blood. Appropriate treatment to ensure this is far better than protracted hospitalisation at a later date when little can be done to bring about an effective cure.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 22 April 1969)

■ THE ECONOMY

November financial measures ineffective

The bank rate has been increased as a first step towards dampening the economy. In this respect the Bundesbank has always been a head in front of the Federal government.

When at the end of January the government published an annual report full of anxiety about the maintenance of a sound growth rate, the Bundesbank in its monthly report was warning of the danger of overheating. In the past the Bundesbank has not always been accurate in its forecasts, but this time its insight was more accurate.

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The Bundesbank did not launch its programme with a sensational rise in the bank rate (increasing the central rate at which the Bundesbank lends gold to the banks). Limiting the scope for rediscounting – that is, limiting the banks' hopes of getting money from the Bundesbank at all against discount bills – could rightly be regarded in the short term as a decision of no great consequence. For, this scope was still considerable even after the limitations.

The ratio of expenditure to effect in this case therefore was exactly reversed, compared to the Federal government's endeavours to influence the economic growth rate.

This is easily explained. The Bundesbank was interested in effect, the government in putting on a show. Once again the public witnessed the recurrent and sadly familiar rift between the government and the Bundesbank, except that this time it was felt that the Frankfurt bankers were in the right.

What has occurred in the meantime? Prices are higher than they were a few months ago, increasing at a rate that surprised most observers. Consumer prices, for example, reached a level last March which in the opinion (or hopes) of the government should only have been reached at the end of the year.

This means that every increase from now on will boost prices beyond the "planned" rate of two per cent. It is not to be denied that in recent weeks "administrative" and natural causes (officially approved rent increases, for example, and effects of the wide range of foodstuffs on sale) were a factor in the price trend. But the tendency, if not the extent, of "truly economic" price increases in industry and in the building sector is disquieting, to say the least.

Of far greater importance, however, is a trend in the decision-making machine which is reflected not (or not yet) in prices but in other sectors of the country's economic life. More so than the actual price trend, this shift in the policy department is reason to fear another rash of overheating this year.

Two factors especially have changed the pattern recently. For one thing, the measures taken by the government last November to rectify the balance of trade have proved all but ineffectual. Consequently, investment of industry has reached a level higher than that which had been predicted by the experts. The trend that is now setting in makes a mockery of Professor Karl Schiller's "expansion within limits." This is the second

The Bundesbank has increased the discount rate from three to four per cent. The lending rate – Lombard rate – has been increased to five per cent. The president of the Bundesbank, is seen here between the previous American Treasury Secretary, Henry Fowler, and the Federal Republic Economic Affairs Minister, Karl Schiller. (Photo: dpa)

factor and it points to the return of the good old boom.

Who would have thought that despite the four per cent tax on exports – despite, that is, the "substitute" revaluation of the Mark – the flow of orders from abroad in recent months would surpass the record peak of last autumn? This certainly dampens hopes of cooling the export growth rate.

The price-curbing effects of the measures taken to ease the flow of imports – in the main, a four per cent reduction in import tax – can be largely written off. The greater part of the concession has been apparently pocketed by foreign suppliers and Federal Republic importers and middlemen. Those who predicted that the measures taken to improve the balance of trade would be ineffectual because they were not strong enough can now congratulate themselves on their foresight.

Much suggests that this year our export surplus – adding the advance exports of last December to the 1969 total – will hardly be much smaller than that of 1968.

Clearly, the economy is well on the way to becoming overheated. In its economic policy the government is in danger of cutting a pretty poor figure. The question is whether the poor results will be announced before or after the Bundestag elections next autumn.

What does a government do whose miscalculation last November – the abortive attempt to curb exports and stimulate imports – now threatens to become a blunder in the eyers of the world? The first thing it does is to play for time by carrying on a kind of economic shadow-boxing.

How long can it go on doing this, however? The price trend can possibly be minimised from now until the elections. What will happen, however, if speculation on a revaluation of the Mark sets in earlier than that? There is every reason to believe that it may.

Must the Chancellor then resign, having previously announced that his government will not revaluate?

The situatuion is less problematic for the Bundesbank. It need not take into account the Chancellor's blunders or how the voters will react to a certain policy.

So much the better for the Bundesbank. It can depict the situation as it is and act accordingly.

At least it will be drawn to the attention of the public that all is not well in this economic state. More important than this the Bundesbank by being able to speak its mind will force the government to take action.

If the government pursues its restrictive course – and it surely will – the country's balance of payments, now maintained at great effort mainly with massive capital exports, will end up very much in imbalance. This will inevitably result in another revaluation crisis.

Does the government intend to wait so long that, under the pressure of circumstances, it cannot even fix the date for taking its decision? *Hans Jürgens*

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 27 April 1969)

Karl Blessing justifies bank rate increase

The post-war epoch of creeping inflation that bothered no one is coming to an end everywhere, said the president of the Bundesbank, Karl Blessing, in a speech at this years's congress of savings banks in Karlsruhe. The president said that the rules governing the international gold standard should be more strictly observed.

Creeping inflation is coming to an end, atlhough no one can say what the future holds. Much indicates that better currency discipline should be practised in major countries, the president went on.

Karl Blessing based his confident view of the overall inflationary trend on the latest measures taken by many countries. He said the time has passed when countries with largescurrency reserves, especially the United States, can afford to run up high balance of payments deficits.

The world has become cautious about taking in dollars, and this has a disciplinary effect on American monetary policy and also that of other countries. The American administration is today determined to break the inflationary trend at home. The British and French governments have taken steps which few countries would have taken a short while ago – measures which are unpopular and require a high degree of courage on the part of the governments concerned.

The president argued that the high-interest policy of many countries could not fail in the long run to prevent overheating and stabilise prices. He justified the latest one per cent rise in the bank rate by referring to mounting pressure in the economy. By taking this step the Bundesbank hopes to counteract price-boosting overactivity and a possible recession resulting from this.

The Bundesbank is of the opinion that the higher bank rate will not depress long-term capital exports below the level required to balance surpluses in the exchange of goods and services. A slight recession would even help to check rising interest rates on domestic money markets.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 24 April 1969)

Strauss opposes revaluation

Franz Josef Strauss, the Minister of Finance, opposed a unilateral revaluation of the Mark Speaking to bankers in Karlsruhe. He said the Federal government was not being dogmatic in this question, but altering the rate of exchange should have a wider purpose than helping a few contries out of their present difficulties.

Ludwig Poullain, president of the association of savings banks, advanced the view that considering the alternative between "adaptive" inflation or revaluation, even a unilateral revaluation, an upward revaluing of the Mark would seem to be the only answer. (DIE WELT, 25 April 1969)

■ **EDUCATION**

Students' Union calls for national university conference

The initiative was made by the Federal Republic Student Union, the body which has been trying – without much visible evidence of success so far – to rally moderate students. Perhaps not so much in the hope of realising the project, but more in an effort to gain the public ear, the Union demanded that a national university conference should be held, at which all university groups should be represented.

Nonetheless *the Federal Republic* Vice-chancellors' Conference (which regards itself as the representative of the whole university community but can only speak on behalf of the teaching staff) has put the suggestion on its agenda.

But at its general meeting in Bonn, the Federal Academic Assistants' Conference also took up the idea of getting all those involved in university life – professors, assistants and students – to sit down at the conference table.

It would like such a conference to be convened before the end of June. The academic assistants seem to think it is less important who should convene the gathering: the Education Ministers' Conference or the Vice-chancellors' Conference. They do not exclude the possibility that the Acadamic Assistants' Conference itself might call for the conference.

The conference would be held under the auspices of the current or the next Federal President. Opinions differ as to who should attend the meeting: just the three groups mentioned previously, or ministers, Bundestag members and representatives of political parties and academic organisations as well? In the meantime, there is talk of appointing a preparatory committee consisting of about *forty people*.

The make-up of the conference also depends on its function. The reasons given for holding such a conference include the obvious and hidden conflicts between the various university groups, the disputed position and function of universities in the state and in society, and the lack of clarity amongst the general public as to the aims of university and education policy.

In the opinion of the academic assistants, the purpose of the conference would be to replace the reforming monologues by individual groups and bodies by a discussion between the interested parties.

The following aims should be pursued: discussion of the prerequisites, emphases and consequences of reform bills currently before several state parliaments, examination of the motives behind important differences of opinion; preparation of joint projected reforms and of a gradual plan for the realisation of these aims, and the development of a reform strategy.

The acadamic assistants have taken into account the fact that the opposing fronts at universities themselves have in some cases been broken down during recent discussions on university constitutions and that professors have become more amenable to other points of view. Admittedly, they noted scepticism on the part of the Association of Federal Republic Student Unions which they still regard as their student counterparts.

The assistants expressed surprise that the political parties have established unified principles for the university and education system, but cannot implement them through concrete legislation even at a state level, where they alone have a majority On the other hand, they realise that they cannot significantly influence the bills at present awaiting the consideration of the state parliaments.

However, they would like to make clear at a Federal university conference that the administrative reforms currently being pursued are on the whole nothing more than this, and hence only take into account one aspect of the university *situation. They want to emphasise that* the enactment of the proposed university legislation would not conclude university reforms, but in fact initiate them.

So a university conference should also consider which aspects the university acts or bills do not cover although they should be legally regulated, and which points are dealt with although strictly speaking they should be under the jurisdiction of the universities themselves.

The matters which are not dealt with but should be covered, include – in the opinion of the academic assistants – reform of the structure of the teaching staff. The assistants feel that references to general Federal regulations which, in the view of several states, preclude such reforms are irrelevant.

The states willing to introduce reforms in this respect could at least initiate amendments through the Bundesrat. Or alternatively, the Federal legislature could create new official posts for example assistant professors, who would then not be affected by general regulations.

Those who suggest a Federal university conference must certainly be aware of the risks involved. In principle, it could do no harm for the various groups to get together and talk things over. But if the conference room became not a discussion forum but a boxing arena in which the representatives of various groups vulgarly attacked one another and the referee or mediator got hit on the nose, then the conflicts could be exaggerated and the watching politicians might feel justified in taking more decisions themselves, without thoroughly investigating the opposing arguments of the relevant parties.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 17 April 1969)

Education to be an electoral issue

Political parties in Bonn intend to make education policy a special issue in the coming Bundestag election campaign. A study prepared by the Bad Godesberg Infas Institute, "From the local to the comprehensive school," shows that the general public broadly agrees on the effect of schooling on later working life.

85 per cent of the population in Hesse and Hamburg thinks that, in the last analysis education has a decisive influence on whether or not a person gets on in his career. People's hopes and expectations for their own children were directed primarily towards better education and better professional standing.

Today only a small minority of the population is in favour of religious school and Catholics, but now the supporters of religious segregation have dwindled to six per cent of the whole population.

Thus, for example, the people of North Rhine-Westphalia, the largest Federal state, are not satisfied that according to the new state education laws only secondary schools (from the fith to the ninth school year) are to be joint schools. 61 per cent of the North Rhine-Westphalian population would prefer junior schools (from the first to the fourth school year) to do away with religious segregation.

Opinions differ more on the question of putting up the school-leaving age than on the matter of separate Protestant and Catholic schools or joint schools. It is true that 67 per cent of the population think that the ninth school year (with the exception of Bavaria, this has now been introduced by all Federal states) is a good thing, but nonetheless 25 per cent are still not in favour. In 1963 as many as 45 per cent were inclined to reject the idea.

(WELT DER ARBEIT, 18 April 1969)

Mehnert lectures on restless youth in East and West

At the end of the general meeting of the Society of Friends of Aachen University held in Düsseldorf, Professor Klaus Mehnert, director of the political science institute at Aachen technical university, gave a lecture on "Restless youth West and East."

Klaus Mehnert meant in particular students who are not completely integrated into the overall working process. He said that the external manifestations of student unrest were extraordinarily similar throughout the world.

Everywhere the same sit-ins were organised; everywhere there were the same protests and demonstrations. In all countries Che Guevara, Marcuse and Rosa Luxemburg are the idols of youth. But the incidents which triggered off the revolt – "the straw which broke the camel's back" – were extraordinarily varied.

In this country, for example, it was the Shah of Iran's state visit, in the US the Negro problem unleashed the student disturbances; in Japan it was the announcement in 1960 of Eisenhower's visit to extend the Japanese-American defence agreement. Mehnert enumerated a number of other reasons which *could initiate* student unrest, for *example*, even language problems such as exist in Belgium between the Flemings and the Walloons.

Young people always have to cope with external tensions – pressure of time, tempo, stress – without simultaneously being able to reach the decisions which, fifty years ago, were irrevocably covered by the concepts, "Kaiser, fatherland and the Bible." In addition, there are extra tensions resulting from early sexual maturity and the delay in starting a career.

What is the "restless generation" demanding? Two basic trends can be observed: one group is demanding clear organisation, determined leadership, a clear ideology and the pursuit of definite political aims. The other group condemns any kind of organisation They do not pursue a clear ideology but are *trying* to find a new way of life which is as radically different as possible from current modes of existence. But in both cases "revolution" does not mean political revolution, rather "cultural revolution."

Professor Mehnert also maintains that it is generally recognisable that these would-be revolutionaries are anxious to protect the individual from the mass of the masses. Thus it is not a revolt *of the* masses, but a revolt *against* the masses.

This problem can be solved soonest at universities by introducing participation by students. Starting off with a small community, which involves the individual, every immatriculated student can be indirectly represented on decision-making bodies by the elected representatives of each faculty. This would fulfill the desire for individual expression of opinion through representatives.

(Handelsblatt, 21 April 1969)

Parents find young hard to handle and advise

Nowadays the family is often unable to cope unaided with the tasks of bringing up children. This problem was the subject of this year's teachers' conference in Hamburg. The topic under discussion was "Pre-school and primary education," a very important subject for teachers and parents alike.

Modern psychology and research into people's abilities have shown that the ability to learn – and this also applies to the school sphere – certainly does not only begin at school-age. The first few years of a child's life are particularly important; in many respects, its later development is often decided by the time he or she starts school.

Dr Walter Bärsch, director of the Hamburg schools' service, said, "up to now we have based our ideas on the naive view that when six-year-olds start school, they all know nothing. But in the lower classes of junior schools, more than anywhere else, the differences in basic education imparted by the parents are most obvious. All children must be enabled to attend a pre-school so that equal opportunity really exists."

Compared with other children, it is particularly children from lower social ranks who are at a disadvantage as regards linguistic development, their behaviour in the community and learning ability. This is where the pre-school could help so as to create equal opportunities.

At the beginning of the next school year in the autumn, the first attempts to improve the pre-school situation in Hamburg are to be made At present, there are only enough places for fifteen per cent of children under six at pre-schools.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 22 April 1969)

MEDICINE

Gastric ulcers discussed at internal medicine congress in Wiesbaden



"God made man in his image, but he made him suffer for it." Anatole France wrote this and the man who quoted it was the renowned Hamburg psychiatrist, Professor Bürger-Prinz, He was speaking in Wiesbaden's Rhine-Main Hall on the last day of the 75th congress of the Society for Internal Medicine.

Even before this jubilee event, the last day of the congress has traditionally been devoted to talks between specialists in the field of internal medecine and representatives of other medical fields. On this occasion the guests, for the first time, were delegates from the society for psychiatry and nervous disorders led by their president, Professor H. Ehrhardt from Marburg.

It is not surprising that this meeting, which can almost be considered revolutionary in this country, was arranged by Professor D. Jahn, president of the society for internal medicine and chairman of the society's 75th meeting. Professor Bürger-Prinz recalled his student days with Professor Jahn and traced their relations since then.

This congress, which usually begins on Monday morning, generally lasts until Thursday at noon. On this occasion, workers were noisely dismantling the pharmaceutical and industrial stands and the rows of seats in Pavilion A while in Pavilion B the internal medical experts were still deep in conversation with the neurologists and psychiatrists.

Three times more papers had been read than had been expected. Bürger-Prinz and Jahn's colleagues, exemplary for cooperation in their respective fields, are truly no longer working alone. Daily contacts have long since become routine before these were documented at a traditional medical congress.

Gastric ulcers are typical of the complaints which internal specialists and psychiatrists tackle together. Acute ulcers can be produced in animals exposed to mental strain, but not chronic ulcers. Responsibility especially can result in stomach and duodenal ulcers, depending on the individual's constitution.

The acid gastric juice is stimulated, attacking the mucous membrane. The constitutional balance is disturbed and the result is an ulcer.

Professor Demling from Erlangen reported that the acid content of the gastric juice increases, for example, when a person watches a thriller on television. *Music causes a decline in the volume of* gastric juice, and it is interesting to note that this varies with Bach, Mozart and beat.

The over-conscientious tend to be ulcer-prone. Often they are self-employed,



Professor D. Jahn

usually they neglect their family life. They smoke more and take more pills than other people.

When they have sex it is usually to prove something to themselves, or to prove themselves. More men than women are found in this category, and more men than women suffer from ulcers.

Women of a certain mental cast are often afflicted by articular rheumtism. Twenty per cent of women suffering from ulcers later develop articular rheumatism. This is an established fact, but no one knows why so many ulcer-prone males marry women who later develop articular rheumtism.

With these considerations in mind, stomach and other intestinal ulcers can partly be cured by psycho-pharmaceutics. The Basle psychiatrist, Professor Kielholz, said that treatment should be determined not by the somatic, that is, physical symptoms but by the nature of the psychopathological disturbance.

Fear or anxiety can have mental and physical sources, but there is no visible connection between fear and the extent of the ailment. Psycho-pharmaceutical treatment can mitigate fear, but in Professor Kielholz's opinion – and many internal specialists realised this was meant for them – psycho-pharmaceutics should not be administered without psychotherapy. "The doctor's personality can in certain circumstances remove anxiety more effectively than tranquilizers."

It is essential to understand the interconnections in the field of psychiatric ailments, especially in the case of the nervous vegetative system. Doctors always look for somatic symptoms, but never are any found.

This often turns people into "iatrogenous" individuals, hypochondriacs which the doctor himself has created. This results in depressions, and psychic tensions and depressive moods can, in turn, cause painful maladies.

Excitement and guilt feelings interfere with sleep. Such disturbances, however, which spring from psychic sources, should be treated not with sleeping pills psycho-pharmaceutical preparations but with anti-depressive agents.

Even in the case of pain from incurable cancer better effects are achieved with neuroleptic rather than analgesic agents. With neuroleptic treatment the patient is screened more effectively from the experience of pain. "In all of these cases the psyche comes before the body," said Professor Kielholz.

The most memorable event at this congress, perhaps also from the human point of view, was when the aged Professor M. Bleuler spoke about his life's work, endocrinological psychiatry. In all ailments of the internal secretional glands the psyche is affected. The reverse does not hold true. In the case of psychological disturbances corresponding metabolic disturbances are usually not found. This puts an end to one of the hopes of psychiatrists to effect cures in this direction.

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In some cases of cirrhosis the blood, after a specific operation, flows directly into the brain, evading the liver. Since it is not purified, mental deterioration

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For psychiatrists it is certainly a question of life and death when they select patients for a dialysis, that is, for treatment with an artificial kidney. Thousands of people receuve dialytic treatment in America every year. Some 5,000 die however, although they would have lived on with a permanent dialysis.

A selection must be made. This is done most effectively, as in Hamburg, taking mental and characteristic *features* into consideration. The *ability to get along* with people while postponing *or even* renouncing altogether the *pleasures of the* flesh, the social environment of the patient and even of his relatives, the certainty that the patient can bear the mental burdens of the treatment – these are the factors that decide whether a person should be allowed to live or whether he must die.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 19 April 1969)

Most say – press ahead with heart transplants

Despite the failure of two attempted heart transplants in Munich the majority of the population still favours more experiments in this field, according to a recent opinion survey conducted by the Wickert Institute in Tübingen.

Seventy per cent of the males in the sample totalling 1,988 people and 65 per cent of the women said that further transplants should be attempted.

Seventeen per cent of the men and sixteen per cent of the women were against more transplants of this kind in the Federal Republic. Thirteen per cent of males and nineteen per cent of females were undecided, according to the survey.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 22 April 1969)

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Dr Fischer said that before arteriosclerosis can be detected and treated earlier, systematic examinations must be carried out on many patients. The first signs of poor circulation in the brain must be recorded statistically in whatever combinations they appear. Examination procedures must be developed in which the risk of doing damage is kept to a minium and patients are not subjected to much stress.

Progress will only be possible when symptoms of this disease, already known to doctors, are not simply tagged as inevitable signs of approaching old age, Dr Fischer added. In the case of people beyond middle age the first signs of approaching old age should be take seriously.

These first symptoms can appear in the form of flagging ability, frequent feelings of weariness and sleeplessness.

Frankfurter Neue Presse Stadt-Anzeiger

Such symptoms are rarely lacking in the case histories of patients.

Dr Fischer said that this makes it all the more difficult to determine when exactly treatment should commence.

For economic reasons, however, treatment in the earliest stages is not a simple matter, said Dr Fischer. In ten years there will be 8.5 million people over 65 in this country. Chemical preparations which are already on the market could considerably reduce the hazards of incipient old age.

Dr Wolfgang Köhler from Helligenhafen State Neurological Clinic said that precautionary measures should be taken to ensure that the brain is always evenly supplied with blood. Appropriate treatment to ensure this is far better than protracted hospitalisation at a later date when little can be done to bring about an effective cure.

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The ratio of expenditure to effect in this case therefore was exactly reversed, compared to the Federal government's endeavours to influence the economic growth rate.

This is easily explained. The Bundesbank was interested in effect, the government in putting on a show. Once again the public witnessed the recurrent and sadly familiar rift between the government and the Bundesbank, except that this time it was felt that the Frankfurt bankers were in the right.

What has occurred in the meantime? Prices are higher than they were a few months ago, increasing at a rate that surprised most observers. Consumer prices, for example, reached a level last March which in the opinion (or hopes) of the government should only have been reached at the end of the year.

This means that every increase from now on will boost prices beyond the "planned" rate of two per cent. It is not to be denied that in recent weeks "administrative" and natural causes (officially approved rent increases, for example, and effects of the wide range of foodstuffs on sale) were a factor in the price trend. But the tendency, if not the extent, of "truly economic" price increases in industry and in the building sector is disquieting, to say the least.

Of far greater importance, however, is a trend in the decision-making machine which is reflected not (or not yet) in prices but in other sectors of the country's economic life. More so than the actual price trend, this shift in the policy department is reason to fear another rash of overheating this year.

Two factors especially have changed the pattern recently. For one thing, the measures taken by the government last November to rectify the balance of trade have proved all but ineffectual. Consequently, investment of industry has reached a level higher than that which had been predicted by the experts. The trend that is now setting in makes a mockery of Professor Karl Schiller's "expansion within limits." This is the second factor and it points to the return of the good old boom.



The Bundesbank has increased the discount rate from three to four per cent. The lending rate – Lombard rate – has been increased to five per cent. The president of the Bundesbank, is seen here between the previous American Treasury Secretary, Henry Fowler, and the Federal Republic Economic Affairs Minister, Karl Schiller. (Photo: dpa)

Who would have thought that despite the four per cent tax on exports – despite, that is, the "substitute" revaluation of the Mark – the flow of orders from abroad in recent months would surpass the record peak of last autumn? This certainly dampens hopes of cooling the export growth rate.

The price-curbing effects of the measures taken to ease the flow of imports – in the main, a four per cent reduction in import tax – can be largely written off. The greater part of the concession has been apparently pocketed by foreign suppliers and Federal Republic importers and middlemen. Those who predicted that the measures taken to improve the balance of trade would be ineffectual because they were not strong enough can now congratulate themselves on their foresight.

Much suggests that this year our export surplus – adding the advance exports of last December to the 1969 total – will hardly be much smaller than that of 1968.

Clearly, the economy is well on the way to becoming overheated. In its economic policy the government is in danger of cutting a pretty poor figure. The question is whether the poor results will be announced before or after the Bundestag elections next autumn.

What does a government do whose miscalculation last November – the abortive attempt to curb exports and stimulate imports – now threatens to become a blunder in the eyers of the world? The first thing it does is to play for time by carrying on a kind of economic shadow-boxing.

How long can it go on doing this, however? The price trend can possibly be minimised from now until the elections. What will happen, however, if speculation on a revaluation of the Mark sets in earlier than that? There is every reason to believe that it may.

Must the Chancellor then resign, having previously announced that his government will not revaluate?

The situatuion is less problematic for the Bundesbank. It need not take into account the Chancellor's blunders or how the voters will react to a certain policy.

So much the better for the Bundesbank. It can depict the situation as it is and act accordingly.

At least it will be drawn to the attention of the public that all is not well in this economic state. More important than this the Bundesbank by being able to speak its mind will force the government to take action.

If the government pursues its restrictive course – and it surely will – the country's balance of payments, now maintained at great effort mainly with massive capital exports, will end up very much in imbalance. This will inevitably result in another revaluation crisis.

Does the government intend to wait so long that, under the pressure of circumstances, it cannot even fix the date for taking its decision? *Hans Jürgens*

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 27 April 1969)

Karl Blessing justifies bank rate increase

The post-war epoch of creeping inflation that bothered no one is coming to an end everywhere, said the president of the Bundesbank, Karl Blessing, in a speech at this years's congress of savings banks in Karlsruhe. The president said that the rules governing the international gold standard should be more strictly observed.

Creeping inflation is coming to an end, atlhough no one can say what the future holds. Much indicates that better currency discipline should be practised in major countries, the president went on.

Karl Blessing based his confident view of the overall inflationary trend on the latest measures taken by many countries. He said the time has passed when countries with largescurrency reserves, especially the United States, can afford to run up high balance of payments deficits.

The world has become cautious about taking in dollars, and this has a disciplinary effect on American monetary policy and also that of other countries. The American administration is today determined to break the inflationary trend at home. The British and French governments have taken steps which few countries would have taken a short while ago – measures which are unpopular and require a high degree of courage on the part of the governments concerned.

The president argued that the high-interest policy of many countries could not fail in the long run to prevent overheating and stabilise prices. He justified the latest one per cent rise in the bank rate by referring to mounting pressure in the economy. By taking this step the Bundesbank hopes to counteract price-boosting overactivity and a possible recession resulting from this.

The Bundesbank is of the opinion that the higher bank rate will not depress long-term capital exports below the level required to balance surpluses in the exchange of goods and services. A slight recession would even help to check rising interest rates on domestic money markets

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 24 April 1969)

Strauss opposes revaluation

Franz Josef Strauss, the Minister of Finance, opposed a unilateral revaluation of the Mark Speaking to bankers in Karlsruhe. He said the Federal government was not being dogmatic in this question, but altering the rate of exchange should have a wider purpose than helping a few contries out of their present difficulties.

Ludwig Poullain, president of the association of savings banks, advanced the view that considering the alternative between "adaptive" inflation or revaluation, even a unilateral revaluation, an upward revaluing of the Mark would seem to be the only answer. (DIE WELT, 25 April 1969)

TECHNOLOGY

Dornier's hot-gas rotor system

REVOLUTIONARY HELICOPTER DEVELOPMENT



In the competition to provide a successor to the Bundeswehr's Alouette helicopter Dornier are staking all on their hot-gas rotor system, which has been undergoing initial trials on the firm's new test beds at Friedrichshafen airport since the New Year.

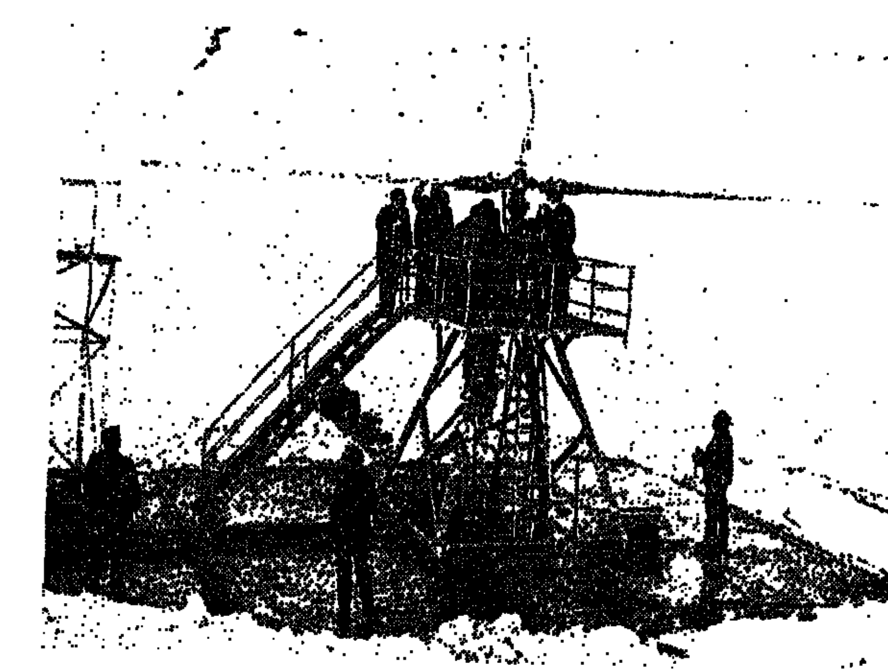
If the trials are as successful as Dornier hope they could one day lead to revolutionary developments in helicopter propulsion systems. The complex mechanical arrangement of joints, shafts and gears would be a thing of the past, superseded by hot gas from the engine directly propelling the rotors.

Dornier intend to start flight trials of the new procedure next year with a first prototype, the Do 132. By next year test-bed trials should have been completed. The Federal government has commissioned research and development work and the construction of three prototypes at a flat rate of nine million Marks.

It remains to be seen to what extent Dornier will be selling licenses to other manufacturers should the new propulsion system prove the hoped-for success.

The hot-gas rotor consists of hollow blades. Hot engine exhaust is channelled through the blades, coming out at the end at a right angle, so causing the rotor to rotate. Because hot gas is used the rotor does not have to be de-iced in flight.

A precursor of the new system was the cold-circuit propulsion unit developed in 1965 and 1966, which involved air intake from outside by means of a turbine. At that time rotor blade materials and design were not resistant enough to withstand hot exhaust gases.



Trials of Dornier's hot-gas rotor system (Photo: Dornier)

Now that the technological problems have been solved Dornier are going all out to develop a hot-gas rotor. This work is not, however, an isolated feature of the firm's activities. The hot-gas rotor must be seen against the background of Dornier's overall work on helicopters.

Dornier are engaged in research on an unmanned helicopter, the Do 132, a project that has led to the development of a fixed rotor platform. In addition to this R & D work Dornier began, two and a half years ago, to manufacture Bell helicopters under licence.

At a rate of twelve a month between 120 and 130 of the total order of 400 Bell helicopters have been delivered. The Do 132, on the other hand, must get a move on if it is to keep up with the competition, some of which has already completed flight tests.

Details of the replacement for the Bundeswehr's Alouette helicopter have not yet been specified but specifications can be assessed in the light of known requirements.

In view of the independent work Dornier are carrying out the firm tends to show little enthusiasm for merger moves in the aircraft industry. Dornier are prepared to cooperate where there is a valid reason for so doing but do not want to undertake any futher commitments. The firm employs a staff of 6,000 and its annual turnover is estimated at about 3[…] million Marks.

(Industriekurier, 22 April 1969)

Green light for jet trainer project

Messerschmitt-Bölkow of Munich and Nord- and Sud-Aviation of Paris have agreed to cooperate in the develop[ment] of a jet trainer. According to Bölkow a joint working party has been set up with the aim of designing a jet trainer to [meet] potential French and Federal Republic [air] force requirements of roughly 500 units. A joint preliminary design has already been agreed and the three firms are to [start] to work on a joint study report.

In the jet trainer project, Bölkow said, great store is set by the use of components of the SN - 600, a joint civil venture of Nord- and Sud-Aviation, the reason being that the SN - 600 is also to be manufactured in a military version for courier, supply and training purposes. Joint logistics are thus feasible.

(Hannoversche Presse, 25 April 1969)

Aircraft manufacturers propose giant merger

After a satisfactory conclusion to negotiations the managements of Messerschmitt-Bölkow of Munich and Hamburger Flugzeugbau of Hamburg have recommended a merger to their boards and shareholders. A decision is shortly to be made whether there is to be a full-scale merger or merely participation.

It had been assumed that HFB was aiming at a merger with Vereinigte Flugtechnische Werke of Bremen, itself the result of a merger between Focke-Wulf, Heinkel and Weser Flugzeugbau. The surprise announcement following intensive be the chosen partner. At the very least, the capital structure of the two be the chosen partner. At the very least, the capital structure of the tow firms is to be integrated.

The independence of the Hamburg firm, which is wholly owned by the Blohn family, the Hamburg shipbuilders, is to be largely maintained, it has officially been announced. The idea of joining forces is to round off development and production programmes. HFB mainly manufacture aircraft, Messerschmitt-Bölkow are more concerned with space and weapons technology.

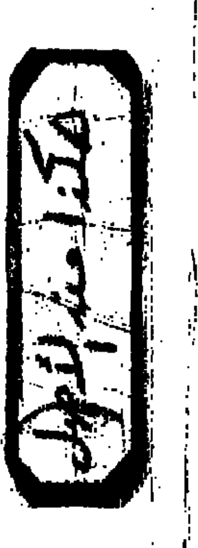
Before agreement in principle was reached there was a certain amount of disagreement at Messerschmitt-Bölkow, it is understood. Fusion would, of course, reduce the proportion of share capital held by any one shareholder in the companies as they now stand. Sepp Hort of Messerschmitt-Bölkow and a spokesman for Hamburger Flugzeugbau have refused to comment.

This latest move in the direction of major units in the aircraft industry a development advocated emphatically by the Federal government for many years, makes a group with total share capital of 29.2 million Marks, ten million of which are accounted for by Hamburger Flugzeugbau, the remainder by Messerschmitt-Bölkow.

Messerschmitt hold a third of the total and the remainder is divided equally between Ludwig Bölkow, the Bavarian State Reconstruction Finance Institute, Boeing of America and Nord Aviation of France.

The new concern employs 19,000 people. Messerschmitt-Bölkow's 1969 turnover is estimated at 600 million, HFB's 1968 turnover was 225 million Marks.

(DIE WELT, 25 April 1969)



ROADS

More accident prevention measures needed

"An involuntary mass experiment" was the verdict on what goes on every day on the roads of this country given at the 24 April hearing of the Bundestag transport committee by a casualty ward surgeon.

He was one of twelve experts requested to attend the hearing, the subject of which was automobile safety. Last year nearly 17,000 died on the roads of the Federal Republic and too little research has been devoted to the reasons this depressing figure.

A large number of offenders deserve to be in the dock for increasing accident risks. They include road-users, the motor industry, roadbuilders and legislators. The doctors, insurance specialists and engineers who attended the hearing noted a gross discrepancy between possible accident precautions and measures actually undertaken.

There is no shortage of therapists to solve the problems of road traffic but coordination leaves much to be desired. A spokesman for the motor manufacturers' association (VDA) read out a long list of safety measures the industry has already put into effect and an even longer list of proposals made by the manufacturers.

"The problem," the spokesman told parliamentarians, "is not the making of proposals but ratification of them."

What is more, officialdom lends the VDA little assistance in its research work. Baden-Württemberg police, for instance, refused one manufacturer permission to equip accident research patrols on trunk roads and autobahns with yellow flashing lights. Police accident reports are often imprecise and the victims' doctors are under oath not to disclose details.



Yet another pointless accident! (Photo: Conti-Press)

West Berlin automobile safety specialist Professor Ernst Fiala, who is engaged in research work for the VDA, was even more frank. "My institute," he stated, "has better contacts with Washington than with Bonn."

Safety devices that are still waiting to be discovered by the general public include a distance indicator that will allow vehicles to drive closer together at less risk and bumpers designed to be of genuine use in the event of an accident, particularly when pedestrians are involved. The only disadvantage of safety bumpers is that they leave much to be desired from the design and styling viewpoint.

The consequenses of road accidents cost between 10,000 and 12,000 million Marks a year. A single accident with fatal results involves expenditure amounting to 120,000 Marks, most of which goes on assistance

Professor Fiala has assessed the amount of money spent on road safety devices in relation to the sum they save by preventing accidents. Autobahn crash barriers and safety belts prove to be a particularly good investment.

The Professor is more doubtful about the direct economic benefits of speed limits. "I have yet to hear," he noted, "of a research programme designed to assess the value of mandatory limits." He favours recommended speeds.

Medical men fill in background details. Their colour slides of accident victims and quotations from statistics paint a gruesome picture. Krefeld accident researcher Professor Herzog listed a whole catalogue of errors of omission and commission, quoting figures based on safety checks of 28 cars, ranging from the Goggomobil to the Mercedes 600.

In almost every instance cars have too deep a dashboard, with the result that in a head on collision the dashboard is certain to smash the driver's knees and ensure serious injuries to joints and pelvis. Designers are to blame.

Dr Müller-Jensen, a Munich eye specialist, produced figures proving that 95 per cent of damage to eyesight sustained in traffic accidents is caused by fragments of non-safety glass and pointed out that the situation could be improved if the lower edge of the windscreen and with it the jagged edges of glass still in the frame and likely to splinter sill more were lower down. Unfortunately this proposal cannot easily be reconciled with the demand for raising the level of dashboards.

In none of the cases mentioned by Dr Müller-Jensen was the injured party wearing a safety belt. "Ninety per cent of accidents could be prevented if only motorists would wear safety belts," he commented. The motorist himself is to blame. Safety belts can be fitted in virtually all vehicles marketed in this country.

Safety is not always inexpensive. Insurance experts and accident researchers both recalled discussions with manufacturers in which the industry "was decidedly interested but soon voiced fears that safety would not sell well," said Professor Herzog.

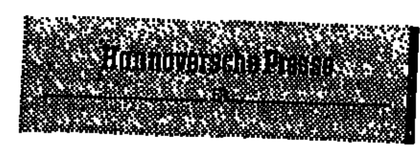
Professor Herzog was none too happy about accident research systems and finance. There are very few research workers and still less money.

One parliamentarian asked whether a

Continued on page 14

■ MODERN LIVING

Stewardesses wanted – only slim girls need apply!



Lufthansa is urgently looking for stewards and stewardesses. The requirements the line makes of its cabin staff are the same now as they always were, although in many ways these requirements have become more exacting as Lufthansa's fleet has grown and as the routes flown have become more varied and numerous.

There is a history attached to every job. The first airline steward in the world was a German waiter by the name of Arthur Hofe. The first stewardess was American, Ellen Church. She clambered on board a plane for the first time in 1930 in San Francisco. The plane was a United Airlines aircraft and the passengers stared amazed as she went through the cabin asking passengers if they wanted coffee, tea or milk.

The race for the new profession was considerable. Old hands at Lufthansa recall that one applicant for a stewardess's job said that she was an acrobat and could serve passengers standing on her head. Another said that her main qualifications for applying for the job was that she had been a lift attendant.

Since Lufthansa was re-established more than 2,000 stewardesses have been trained and 800 are flying with the line today. The 800 stewardesses will be working on the new jumbo jet services that Lufthansa will be operating from early in 1970 onwards.

But when these new services begin Lufthansa catering officials maintain that a further 300 new girls will be required for cabin service. It is expected that this figure will increase to 350 annually over the next five years.

For three days every week Lufthansa's once chief stewardess, Ursula Tautz, and now in charge of cabin staff training interviews between ten and 14 men and women (the number of stewards employed by thes line has also to be increased) to investigate their suitability for training and eventual employment with the airline.

Out of something like 6,000 applicants 1,200 are invited for interviews in Frankfurt. They are selected after their handwritten applications are scrutinsed. Of the 1,200 interviewed 300 are taken on for training.

But Ursual Tautz does not have the sole responsibility for deciding who shall be interviewed. Doctors and psychologist also have a say in the matter. But nevertheless the most important part of the selection process, apart from answering the questionnaire and an oral examination, is the half-hour chat with Ursula Tautz that each candidate has to have.



Competition for stewardess jobs with Lufthansa is considerable. These lucky girls passed the training period with flying colours. (Photo: Lufthansa-Archiv)

She asks for instance one girl red-haired Sieglinde, "Why do you want to be a stewardess?" She might ask, "What would you do if a passenger insults you?" Or again she might ask, "What would you do if a passenger invited you out for the evening with only one thing in mind?"

Of course the questions are not so important as the answers. It is noted if the girl takes a polite, friendly or disgruntled attitude.

Girls are interviewed in German, English and whatever is the girl's third language. She is then suddenly asked to get on the bathroom scales that stand in the corner. Sieglinde, for instance, who weighs 125 pounds, is then told that for Lufthansa she is overweight.

Despite her weight disadvantage however, Sieglinde, became a Lufthansa stewardess. And this as well as having the disadvantage of speaking only two foreign languages. She had in fact one of the most important qualities that the airline sets great store upon. She was feminine without being too womanish. She seemed adaptable, reliable, adroit and to possess charm and a pleasing personality.

Stewardess training lasts seven weeks. For the first year of flying service a girl earns for a 70-hour month 1,100 Marks.

(Hannoversche Presse, 19 April 1969)

Sunday best tradition still holds good

Clothes make people. Four out of every five people in this country have faith in this saying. On Sunday they haul out of the wardrobe their Sunday best to make the day, as well as themselves, something special.

A mere 13 per cent wear the clothes they would wear any other day on the week, according to a survey carried out by the Allensbach Institute for market research an opinion polls. A good three per cent of those questioned, however, would like to discontinue the rituals and dressing up that goes with Sundays.

Treating Sunday as a special day is above all others most important to people living in the country. To these people the new hat or the new suit for the family's attendance at church or the 'Sunday promenade' is very important giving them a feeling of wellbeing and self-confidence.

As many as 93 per cent of the people who live in villages follow this custom and 74 per cent of people who live in large town and cities. This custom is also upheld by middle class manual workers as well as just ordinary workers – 92 and 91 per cent respectively.

Expellees and refugees, curiously enough, are much given to wearing their best on Sunday to give themselves a sense of belonging.

People with a sense of guilt are the first to break with this tradition. Every fourth person in the underworld wears clothes just as if Sunday were any working day. A large seven per cent dress themselves slovenly.

(Hannoversche Presse, 22 April 1969)

Accident measures

Continued from page 13

central investigation department is needed. All the specialists were in favour. A representative of ADAC, the Federal Republic motoring organisation, proposed the establishment of working groups and stated that the ADAC was prepared to finance one.

The motor insurers' association launched an extensive accident research campaign based on questionnaires at the beginning of this year. The insurers' representative called on the transport committee to grant the recently-established Federal Republic Road Safety Council wide-ranging powers.

The spokesman also called for coordination of accident research, safety measures and road safety campaigns. The general consensus of opinion was that what was needed was an accident research centre along the lines of a Max Planck Institute, a research facility of the government-sponsored research organisation.

Rigid steering columns, splintering windscreens, sharp-edged dashboards and what car tester Reinhard Seiffert called "cost considerations in design" are not the only causes of the ominous accident rate and its consequences. Parliament, which has not so far been very active on safety matters, is also partly to blame.

Christian Democratic transport specialist Ernst Müller-Hermann moved that the results of the hearing be expanded and deepened.

(DIE WELT, 25 April 1969)

■ SPORT

Hans Fassnacht, a hard-working swimmer

"So I dive in and swim a new Federal Republic 200 metres backstroke record," says the thin-faced young man who turned eighteen last November as though he were doing no more than ordering more fried eggs for breakfest.

Hans Fassnacht sees backstroke as a mere sideline. He is really a crawl swimmer, European record-holder over 1,500 metres in a time of 16 minutes 46.6 seconds. Yet even this performance is dismissed with a wave of the hand as though he does not want to be reminded of a youthful transgression.

Hans Fassnacht, the first swimmer in the world to do the 400 metres crawl in less than four minutes, has gained in self-confidence during his past four months of study in the United States. His performance has improved too.

On first seeing him again in Bonn, a mere six months since his unsuccessful Olympic performance in Mexico City, the temptation to invite Fassnacht out for a good meal was overwhelming. The chubby youngster of old has grown cleaner-cut. In relentless training he has lost twenty pounds in weight.

This loss has been more than offset by a number of world records, of which 4 minutes 33.2 seconds for the 500 yards crawl is the most impressive. This drastic treatmen has also made him a member of the world's top flight. By any standards Hans Fassnacht must be one of the best swimming talents going.

At Don Gambril's in Long Beach, California, where the Mannheim lad is studying management and French, he has not been initiated into the hocus-pocus of American swimming methods. What he *has* had to cope with has been a tough American training schedule and Hans Fassnacht has stood the test.

When you have to swim the 400 metres crawl fifteen times at intervals of five minutes there is little time to rest, especially when the time taken to cover the distance is included in the five minutes.

Ten 200 metres butterfly at intervals of three minutes, ten 500 metres crawl with a break of only ten seconds in between or ten 100 metres on dry land within 1 minute 45 seconds are only a small selection of the schedules Don Gambril imposes on his world-class trainees.

People who do not make the grade swim just a little bit slower but they do not swim for Don Gambril much longer.

At the United States student championships Fassnacht had about four hours time between his 200 yards crawl heat and the final. Instead of gathering strength he decided to make use of the time to swim the 1,650 yards crawl times at intervals of a minute. At the end of nearly five miles of swimming he had improved his time from 18 minutes 30 seconds to 17 minutes 5 seconds!

Not, of course, that this is the be all and end all of swimming wisdom. Otherwise racing skiers might be expected to have a quick attempt at the north face of the Eiger in between races. But it does show what a fully-trained body can do.

Swimming is accompanied by study. There are exams at the end of every semester for academic activities too. Provided both swimming and academic performance are satisfactory Hans Fassnacht will be awarded another grand – even though he is a German.

Asked how much better he can do, he replies: "I have only just begun. Only been training three months. I knew for a fact that I would improve but even I was surprised that it took so little time."

This country can be proud of Fassnacht's superb performances but what about the 1972 Olympics? It will not be easy to stay at the top and it will be even less easy to keep up his present form for three seasons and not wear out in competition with the world's best.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 21 April 1969)

Hans Fassnacht in action! (Photo: Nordbild)

An unforgettable 400-metres crawl by Fassnacht



Hans Fassnacht's 400 metres crawl in under four minutes was one of those unforgettable moments in sport. There was nothing miraculous or mysterious about it, even though it came as something of a surprise. Others will follow suit. Once upon a time the one-minute barrier for the 100 metres crawl seemed an insuperable obstacle. Now even girls swim faster. The four-minute barrier will lose its aura of unattainability in much the same way.

Yet it is astonishing that a swimmer from this country was the first to break the barrier. An American would have been a more likely prospect. The Americans have set trends in international swimming for years now and have such a firm hold on the international scene that there was a strong temptation to impute to them some special talent.

It was staggering too that the Mannheim boy developed from a swimmer who did not make a name for himself at Mexico City into a performer of genuine calibre in only four months of tough training.

There is nothing mysterious about American training methods or the way of grooming athletes for world records. Gerhard Hetz studied them and promptly swam a world record. Hans Joachim Klein was aware of them, came to the appropriate conclusions and was the most consistent crawl swimmer in the world for a season. And now there is Hans Fassnacht.

The conclusions that could be drawn from his improvement in performance will probably be dismissed in many quarters with the claim that this sort of thing is only possible in optimum training conditions, which this country just does not have.

It is easier to continue waiting for a world record-holder to fall from the heavens than to work towards creating one. This is a point that infortunately must be made in view of the touchingly naive comments repeatedly heard in sports official circles.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 24 April 1969)

Daume is to remain president of NOC

Frankfurter Rundschau

Unabhängige Tageszeitung

Something has happened in Frankfurt that has been on the cards ever since the Bremen annual general meeting of the Federal Republic Sports League (DSB). Willi Daume, the superman of sport in this country, is not to resign as president of the National Olympic Committee any more than he did as president of the DSB.

In Bremen he merely handed over DSB organisation to his deputy, Willi Weyer, North Rhine-Westphalian Minister of the Inerior, a man whose political ambitions decidedly mean more to him than sport does, no matter how keen on sport he may be.

The same has now happened in Frankfurt, where the NOC meeting ruled it undesirable for another man to be elected head of the committee because that would mean amending a constitutional provision that the president of the Organisation Committee for the 1972 Munich Olympics must also be the president of the National Olympic Committee. So Dr Max Danz, AAA president, has taken over as acting chairman.

Sad pointer

It is basically a sad sign for sport in this country that Willi Daume is still the head of all three organisations, even though he has delegated powers to deputies in two instances. Is there something seriously wrong with the structure of sport? Is there no one in the country capable of taking over one post or the other? The answer must be no, which only confirms that sport in this country has depended and will continue to depend on the initiative of one man.

In recent months many commentators have even made out Herr Daume to be a kind of Theodor Heuss of sport, a man like the first President of the Federal Republic, over and above mere detail. But, to stick to plain facts, whatever his merits, Dortmund industrialist Daume is hardly a father figure.

Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose. Willi Daume remains president of NOC, DSB and Olympic organising committee. Nothing has changed. Where the first two are concerned he has merely stepped down temporarily. Munich is, after all, not so far away. In three and a half years it will abb be over and done with and Herr Daume will no doubt take over the reins of control again at the NOC and DSB.

After the Bremen and Frankfurt decisions the man appears to be indispensable. This is, perhaps, one of the main faults of organised sport in this country.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 22 April 1969)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT $ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
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Guinea	F.G. 30.—
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Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.85
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 6.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0.50
Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	$ 0.20
USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d